



The Official Journal of the Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.

DECEMBER 1998



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Regional Hamfests and Other Events

January 17 Frostfest Amateur Radio & Computer Show, Richmond, VA 804-739-2269



National Capital ARES Council Public Service Calendar

December 5: NCAC Institute, Montgomer Co. Office of Emergency Management in Rockville, Md. See NCAC "Club Column" for details.

December 31: First Night Alexandria, contact Jeanne Rexroad (703)971-0384.

NEXT FOUNDATION MEETING

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. meets at 8: p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. **Visitors are always welcome!** The next meeting will be held on December 9th in Takoma Park, Maryland at Columbia Union College, HMS Richards Bldg., Flower Avenue (Take beltway exit 30, South on Colesville Road to Franklin Avenue, left on Franklin to Flower, right on Flower to Carroll Ave., left on Carroll to Greenwood Ave., left on Greenwood to 2nd building on left.

**Talk-in on
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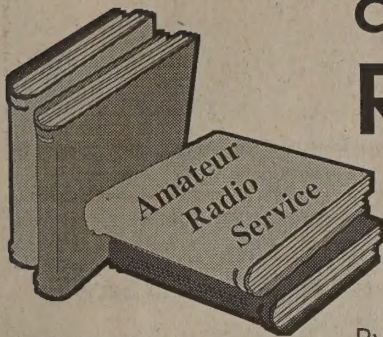


Photo by Murray Green, K3BEQ

On The Cover

Editor of the Bowie Blade Newspaper, John Rouse, W3JLR, (formerly KA3DBN), at the controls of his impressive station. John is an avid Dx'er and has amassed an array of certificates from all over the world during his amateur career. When not on HF, you can find John on the Internet.

Rules and Regs



By Jack Kelleher
W4ZC

SPECTRUM PROTECTION BILL APPEARS DEAD (ARN 1005, 10/30/98)

The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1998 may be a dead in the water thanks in part to the Clinton / Lewinsky affair. This, as the result of House of Representatives attempting to complete work the major appropriations bills while wadding through the charges and counter charges in the ongoing investigation of the President. And some members also need to find time for some politicking before the November elections. As a result, any action in Congress on the measure will be postponed a least until next year.

ARRL BOARD REAFFIRMS, MODIFIES ITS RESTRUCTURING PLAN (ARRL Ltr vol 17 #43)

In a special meeting October 24, the ARRL Board of Directors reaffirmed the bulk of its July 1998 Amateur Radio License Restructuring plan with some modifications. Among other things, the Board's July plan would eliminate the Novice and Tech Plus license classes. To provide a logical entry path to HF for Technicians, the Board now has suggested offering CW privileges to Technicians in the current General CW allocations on 80 through 10 meters. Technicians would be permitted up to 200 W PEP.

"The July plan eliminated the HF door by eliminating the Novice license," observed ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. "This is, in effect, a replacement for the Novice, but without an additional license class."

The Board also agreed to replace its originally proposed A, B, C, and D license class designations with Extra, Advanced, General, and Technician.

Under the July plan—and under the FCC's proposed streamlining—the entry-level HF license would be the General class. Board members at the October 24 meeting near St. Louis expressed concern that the leap to HF privileges under the July plan could prove too daunting, especially for younger newcomers. Under the ARRL plan, it would require passing two written examinations plus a 5 WPM code test to become a General. Some also were troubled about the growing gulf between the "traditional" HF operator and the newer VHF-only amateurs.

Addressing the Morse code requirement in the International Radio Regulations, Sumner summed up the Board's position by saying that the new privileges would amount to self-testing. "By their very nature, you can't use the privileges until you know the code," he said.

The special ARRL Board meeting was called to consider the League's comments on the FCC's amateur licensing "streamlining" proposals in WT Docket 98-143, released in August. (Comments are due December 1). During the day long session, the Board also proposed that the FCC rules ban multiple-choice Morse code tests and establish that a passing grade for a code test be either 70% correct answers to 10 fill-in-the-blank questions or one minute out of five of solid copy.

The Board affirmed its proposals in RM-9196 to improve the procedures for granting Morse code exam credit on the basis of a physician's certification of a disability. It also affirmed "its strong desire" that written exams be modified as

Continued on page 7



MEMBER CLUBS

Adams County Amateur Radio Society
Alexandria Radio Club
Amateur Radio Research and Develop. Corp.
AMSAT - Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation
Anne Arundel Radio Club
Antietam Radio Association, Inc.
ARINC Amateur Radio Club
Arlington Amateur Radio Club
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club
Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
Calvert Amateur Radio Association
Capital City Amateur Radio Society
Capitol Hill Amateur Radio Society
Carroll County Amateur Radio Club
Central Maryland Amateur Radio Club
Charles County Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Chaverim of the Greater Washington Area
Cheese Hollow Amateur Radio Society
Columbia Amateur Radio Association
D-MARC - Digital Mid-Atlantic Radio Council
Department of State Amateur Radio Club
Dulles Amateur Radio Group
Explorer Post #80- Amateur Radio
Fauquier Amateur Radio Association
Federal City REACT Amateur Radio Club
Frederick Amateur Radio Club
Frederick Amateur Repeater Group
Goddard Amateur Radio Club
Green Mountain Repeater Association
Hanover Area Hamming Association
Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club
IBM Amateur Radio Club
Johns Hopkins University APL ARC
KB3BOI Repeater Group, Inc.
Kent Island Amateur Radio Club
Laurel Amateur Radio Club
Leisure World Amateur Radio Club
Loudoun Amateur Radio Group
MD/DC MARS (Navy Marine) Association
MADRAS
Maryland Emergency Phone Net
Maryland FM Association
Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club

Mercury Amateur Radio Assn., NE Area
Metropolitan Communications Network
Metrovision Amateur TV Club
Mid-Atlantic DX & Repeater Assn.
Montgomery Amateur Radio Club
Montgomery Auxiliary Communications Service
Moose Amateur Radio Club
Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club
National Capitol ARES Council
National Capitol DX Association
Naval Research Laboratory Radio Club
NOAA Amateur Radio Club
Northern Virginia FM Association
Northern Virginia Radio Club
Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club
Opequon Radio Society
Pentagon Amateur Radio Club
Potomac Area VHF Society
Potomac Valley Radio Club
Prince George's Wireless Association, Inc.
Prince George's County ARES/RACES
Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.
 Baltimore Chapter #20
 Del-Mar-VA Chapter #150
 Shenandoah Valley Chapter #137
 Vic Clark Chapter #91
 Washington Chapter #23
Rock Creek Amateur Radio Association
St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association
Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club
Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club
Southern Patuxent Amateur Radio Club
Stafford Amateur Radio Assn.
Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club
Summit Amateur Radio Association
Tri-County Amateur Radio Club
T-MARC, Middle Atlantic Repeater Council
Vienna Wireless Society
Voice of America Amateur Radio Club
Washington Adventist Amateur Radio Assn.
Washington Area Young Ladies ARC
Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

necessary "to demonstrate better the depth of the applicant's current radio technical knowledge and operating skill."

The Board supported retention of the topic definitions to be included in written exams, as contained in §97.503(c) of the FCC rules, with some modification to accommodate the new four-class structure.

The Board also reaffirmed its desire that Advanced class volunteer examiners be permitted to administer General class exams, and it renewed its request in RM-9115 for several rules changes involving RACES stations.

The Board noted that it had "heard and considered the views of thousands of ARRL members" on the amateur licensing issues raised in both the ARRL and FCC proposals.

FCC ISSUES UNIVERSAL LICENSING SYSTEM RULES (ARRL Ltr V17 #42 10/23/ 98)

The FCC has issued its long-awaited Report and Order on the Universal Licensing System, which affects all Wireless Telecommunications Bureau licensees. Among other things, the ULS will result in replacing Amateur Radio's familiar FCC Form 610 series with a new Form 605. The new rules become official 60 days after publication in The Federal Register—sometime around the end of the year. The FCC said it expects to have the ULS fully operational by next April. Using the ULS, applicants and licensees will be able to file, modify, and renew electronically. Access to the ULS is via <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/>.

Both text and formatted versions of the complete Report and Order, WT Dockets 98-20 and 96-188, are available on the FCC Web site; <http://www.fcc.gov>.

ANOTHER RESTRUCTURING REQUEST (Tnx ARN 1104 10/9/98)

The National Conference of Volunteer Examination Coordinators (NCVEC) has filed what some see as controversial comments to the FCC's over the agency's Amateur Service streamlining proposal. It's a massive 37 page document that suggests doing away with 13 and 20 word per minute Morse code testing. As Hap Holly, KC9RP of RAIN suggests, it may really amount to another restructuring proposal unto itself:

The NCVEC's Restructuring Proposal calls for reducing the number of Amateur Radio licenses classes from 6 to 3. It also calls for abolishing the 13 and 20 wpm code test.

Fred Maia, W5YI, coordinator for the well known W5YI VEC, said: "Novice would be phased out. Tech plus would be abolished. All Tech Plus licensees would be renewed as Technician. The Technician class exam would consist of 50 questions from the Element 2 & 3A pool. The General Class exam would have 50 questions and 5 wpm. The Extra class exam would have 100 questions and 5 wpm."

According to Maia, removing 13 & 20 wpm code testing would eliminate a major headache for VEs. "The ARRL says 8 percent of all their applicants come to examination sessions with a code wavier. Well I don't know if it is that high, but I do know that there are a lot of them. It presents a problem. . . . Because we have no way of knowing, nor are we qualified to determine whether a person is legitimately handicapped or not."

The vote by the NCVEC membership to back this filing was not unanimous, and the ARRL abstained.

DoD MAY HELP SAVE HAM BANDS (Tnx ARN 1004, 10/9/98)

A demand by the Department of Defense to be paid in advance for any spectrum that it agrees to

Continued next page

reallocate may help protect the rights of radio amateurs. This is the result of the wording of the fiscal year 1999 Defense Authorization bill that says the Department of Defense will receive reimbursement from private companies seeking to buy sections of spectrum that agency was ordered to offer for auction.

But the kicker is that the costs associated with offering the spectrum for auction will be charged to the purchaser. Also the purchaser must compensate the Federal agency in advance for the expenses.

The estimated costs for such compensation could run into the billions of dollars and could lessen interest by many potential bidders. Since much of the spectrum that ham radio occupies is allocated to the Department of Defense, amateurs could see some worthwhile spectrum protection from this action on the part of the Defense Authorization Committee/

FRANCE SIMPLIFIES RECIPROCAL PERMIT: (From ARRL NL V17 #41 10/16/98)

France no longer requires a temporary operating permit for visits of up to 90 days on French soil, and there is no longer any charge. Formerly, applicants had to pay a fee of 100-francs (around \$18) and wait a few weeks for a license. Now, no special notification is necessary. The only "catch" is that operators are supposed to identify using both the required French prefix as well as a / P suffix (eg, FP/W1AW/P), making for a cumbersome call sign!—thanks to Gerard Valadier, N2BFL

IARU ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETS IN VENEZUELA (ARRL Ltr vol 17 #4010/09/98)

The International Amateur Radio Union Administrative Council says it favors no reduction in the minimum international qualifications for a license to operate an Amateur Radio station. At the same time, the Council said it preferred to state the technical and operational qualifications for an

amateur license "in a mandatory Recommendation rather than in the Radio Regulations themselves." The Council expressed its viewpoint in the wake of its meeting in Porlamar, Venezuela, October 3-5 following the IARU Region 2 Conference. At the session, the Council accepted a fourth and final report of the Future of the Amateur Service Committee (FASC). The report took into account recommendations of the previous three regional conferences and adopted guiding principles for possible revision of Article S25 of the International Radio Regulations. Among other provisions, Article S25 says that Amateur Radio license applicants shall demonstrate the ability "to send correctly by hand and to receive correctly by ear, texts in Morse code signals" for operation below 30 MHz.

The Council asked the FASC to continue to develop a draft Recommendation for Council consideration. As proposed, Article S25 would reference specific Recommendations, including the Morse code qualification.

"Amateurs on both sides of the Morse code issue should support moving the qualifications for a license into a Recommendation," said ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. "Recommendations can be reviewed and revised more regularly than the Radio Regulations themselves. At the same time, service representatives have a greater opportunity for input into a Recommendation."

In other business, the Council received the nominations of current IARU Secretary Larry Price, W4RA, for IARU President, and David Wardlaw, VK3ADW, for IARU Vice President for five-year terms starting next May 9. The Council unanimously recommended ratification of the nominations by member societies. The current IARU President is Richard Baldwin, W1RU. Current IARU Vice President Michael Owen, VK3KI, had already declined nomination for another term.

Continued next page

The Council also reviewed the implications of the postponement of the next World Radiocommunication Conference until the year 2000, and the deletion of certain items from the conference agenda by the ITU Council. While this WRC will be held somewhat later than originally expected, the Council said preparations for it and the subsequent WRC in 2002 or 2003 are ongoing, and IARU participation—in the preparatory meetings as well as the conference itself—remains essential.

The Council also accepted the report of the Amateur Radio Outlook Committee and discharged the panel. The Committee was to make general recommendations on the future growth and development of Amateur Radio in light of the Internet and other telecommunications developments. But the Committee reported difficulty soliciting input from the amateur community, perhaps because of confusion about the panel's responsibilities.

In the same vein, the Council agreed to set up a committee to exchange papers identifying issues facing the Amateur Radio services "in the challenging environment of the new millennium" as part of an effort to review the IARU structure and ensure its long-term viability.

International coordinators and advisors reappointed to new three-year terms included Robert Knowles, ZL1BAD, IARU Monitoring System; Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS5AKV, IARU Satellite Advisor; and Christian Verholt, OZ8CY, IARU EMC Advisor. Robert Fabry, N6EK, was appointed IARU Beacon Project Coordinator replacing John Troster, W6ISQ, who has retired.

The Administrative Council's next meeting will follow the IARU Region 1 Conference next September in Norway. A copy of the official news release from the IARU Administrative Council meeting is available at <http://www.iaru.org/re1981005.html>.

FCC RENEWS AMATEUR ENFORCEMENT EMPHASIS (ARRL Ltr vol 17 #39 10/2/98)

Things may be changing for the better on the Amateur Radio enforcement front. The FCC announced this week that all Amateur Radio-related enforcement investigation, evaluation, and processing has been transferred to the Compliance and Information Bureau. The change, effective September 1 but not announced until more than three weeks later, was made "by internal arrangement" between the CIB and the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. The Wireless Bureau handles amateur licensing and, for the past several years, has coordinated enforcement with the CIB.

The FCC said the main objective of the change was to "facilitate the Commission's pursuit of compliance," especially in the area of resolving interference complaints, a hot-button issue within the amateur community.

"Amateur enforcement should have gotten more direct attention over the last few years," conceded Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, the CIB's legal advisor for enforcement. "A lot of people think the FCC doesn't care."

Hollingsworth will be the FCC's point man in handling the complaints. He says FCC Chairman William Kennard "wants greater respect with respect to enforcement" at the FCC. Putting enforcement in the CIB's hands should mean "a much faster, more effective response," he said.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, says he's "cautiously optimistic" that the change will improve the dismal amateur enforcement situation. "Now, CIB doesn't have to just gather evidence and forward it to another bureau," Imlay said. "It can act on it when it is ready. That's a good situation compared to where we were."

The FCC's public notice said the CIB staff now handles Amateur Radio enforcement matters "from

Continued next page

initiation to resolution.” That includes complaints, amateur testing issues, warnings, monetary penalties, revocation hearings, and “in extreme cases” equipment seizure and prosecution through the Department of Justice.

The Wireless Bureau continues to handle Amateur Radio licensing, including new applications and renewals, as well as all Amateur Radio policy and rulemaking matters. The change is expected to have no impact on the Amateur Auxiliary. Hollingsworth said the change could, in fact, mean that the FCC will work more closely and more effectively with amateur volunteers in dealing with enforcement issues. Under the new arrangement, all amateur enforcement questions and complaints should be directed to the Compliance and Information Bureau, Compliance Division, Attention: Amateur Complaints, 1919 M St., Mail Stop 1500E1, Washington, DC 20554.

The FCC also has instituted an “Amateur Enforcement Line” at 202-418-1184. The automated system prompts callers to leave a name, a number, and a brief message. The CIB will return the call within the next business day.

FCC's NESS: ENSURE ADEQUATE SPECTRUM FOR AMATEURS (ARRL Ltr vol 17 #39 10/2/98)

FCC Commissioner Susan Ness recently gave amateurs some cause for optimism. In remarks prepared for delivery September at the Personal Communications Industry Association of America's PCS '98 in Orlando, Florida, Ness promoted the notion that some spectrum should be kept off the auction block. The value to the public of certain spectrum uses “does not always translate into pure economic terms,” Ness declared.

“For example, we need to ensure that adequate spectrum is available for public safety purposes, for unlicensed—that is, Part 15—uses, for the Amateur Service, and for experimental and scientific purposes,” Ness said. “None of these needs would be met if auctions displaced judgment in the spectrum allocation process.”

Addressing the topic “Blueprint for Spectrum Management,” Ness said auctions work well but are not a substitute for the allocation process. The FCC, she said, must not back away from its fundamental duty to allocate “in accordance with the public interest.”

The complete text of Commissioner Ness's remarks are available on the FCC Web site at <http://www.fcc.gov/Speeches/Ness/spsn815.html>.

SARL COUNCIL APPROVES NEW MORSE CODE POLICY (From ARN #1106, 11/2/ 98; for more details see ARN 1106)

South Africa is the latest nation to join the call to give more hams access to the high frequency bands. This by revising international law and their own national regulations regarding the Morse code requirement.

GERMAN HAMS FEARFUL (ARN 1106, 11- 02-98)

Hams in Germany are afraid that recent changes in their government leadership could lead to them being phased out if existence. According to the November 1st edition of Fred Maia's W5YI Report, the recent parliamentary elections have put a coalition of the Social Democrats and the Green party into power and it's the Green party pro-ecology politics that worry German hams.

The Green party has already gone on public record in opposition to the construction of any more flea power 6 watt cellular telephone sites for fear of them being located near populated buildings.

The Green party is also demanding that U.S. owned Radio Free Europe transmitters and all nuclear power plants be shut down. They believe that both are a source of Mad Cow disease.

Now, German amateurs worry that the Green party might decide to target them next. This is because most German hams live in populated areas and run a lot more than the 6 watts that the cellular sites put out.



American Radio Relay League Report

By John Swafford,
W4HU

The purpose of The ARRL Letter is to provide essential news of interest to active amateurs promptly and efficiently, and in advance of publication in our official journal, QST. The ARRL Letter strives to be fast, accurate, concise, and readable. Material from The ARRL Letter may be reproduced in whole or in part in any form, including photo reproduction and electronic databases. Credit must be given to ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.

MITCH ACTIVATES HURRICANE WATCH NET

The Hurricane Watch Net, activated October 24 to keep an eye on Hurricane Mitch, formally stood down October 30 at 0100 UTC. By week's end, Mitch remained stalled off the coastlines of Honduras and Belize, downgraded to a tropical storm after pummeling the area with high winds and torrential rain for several days. Mitch began the week as an extremely dangerous Category 5 storm packing winds of more than 155 MPH. Nearly three dozen people have died as a result of the storm.

As Mitch hit its stride, the Hurricane Watch Net shifted late Tuesday to round-the-clock op Hurricane Watch Net Manager Jerry Herman, N3BDW, reports that the Net and the operators of W4EHW at the National Hurricane Center operated through the night on 3950 kHz and then resumed operation on 14.325 MHz during daylight hours, once 20 meters was open into the affected

area. The Net secured operations after Mitch was downgraded to a tropical storm.

"Net members will remain on frequency informally to assist stations in the affected area as long as propagation lasts," Herman said. The Net could be reactivated should Mitch regain hurricane status, however.

The Hurricane Watch Net shares storm tracking reports with the National Hurricane Center in Miami via W4EHW.

Other Amateur Radio nets also have been active. The Mexican Hurricane Net was active on 7055 kHz. A Central America Emergency Net also has been active on 7090 kHz.

The Salvation Army Net was reported monitoring 14.265 MHz to assist with health-and-welfare traffic. A health-and-welfare net also was active October 28 on 14.320 with W9KJI as net control.

NEW AMATEUR SATELLITE IN TROUBLE

SEDSAT-1, Amateur Radio's newest satellite, is in trouble following its successful launch October 24 from Cape Canaveral. After fewer than two dozen orbits around Earth, problems arose with the spacecraft's batteries and solar panels.

"This should not have happened," said SEDSAT coordinator Mark Maier, KF4YGR, at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, in a posting to SEDSAT team members and others. SEDSAT-1 was fabricated by students at the UAH. It was boosted into orbit by the same Delta II rocket that carried the Deep Space One probe into space. The package contains a Mode L digital store-and-forward transponder and a Mode A analog transponder. SEDSAT-1 has been heard from at various times this week, however, and ground controllers remain optimistic.

Maier said any hope of useful recovery depends

Continued next page

on establishing uplink communication, "and the sooner the better." He said the satellite likely would need uplinks from more than one site "because the uploads will have to be compressed into daytime periods." Maier is hoping to upload code to alter the spacecraft's power-consumption cycle so it's more conservative.

"We can still activate the Mode A and imaging function, but only on a conservative schedule," he said this week.

Chris Lewicki, KC7NYV, of the University of Arizona reported earlier this week that telemetry from SEDSAT-1 indicated the spacecraft's power had dropped to zero at one point and the satellite reset itself. Intermittent telemetry suggests the batteries were not storing their specified 8 Ah. Lewicki said the satellite went quiet halfway through a pass over Tucson on orbit 27, indicating it had gone into its "power cycle" mode. Lewicki said in this state, the satellite notices that it is in extremely low power conditions and waits 10 hours until attempting to transmit again.

The solar panels appear to be producing as much power as expected, but Lewicki said they are "slow to react when exiting an eclipse period," so charging does not start until at least 10 minutes into a daylight cycle. As a result of the power cycling, images of the satellite's deployment from the booster were lost.

For more information, visit the SEDSAT Web site at <http://www.seds.org/sedsat/>.

HAMS HANG TOUGH DURING TEXAS FLOODING

After nearly two weeks of flood duty, hams in Texas are battered but not beaten. Some individual stories of dedication and heroism also have begun to emerge from within the Amateur Radio ranks.

Many residents displaced by the flooding remain in Red Cross shelters this week. More than two dozen people died. South Texas Section

Manager Ray Taylor, N5NAV, reports that at one point, hundreds of hams were active in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Arkansas handling various flood-related duties ranging from net control to shelter communication.

"We've had awful good cooperation," Taylor said. Some hams from as far away as Nacogdoches, near the Louisiana border, volunteered. Hams manning shelters got some relief when the Red Cross was able to get cell phones. "We are beginning to secure the Red Cross net here in San Antonio," Bexar County EC Neil Martin, WA5FSR, said earlier this week. "There are still shelters open, but the Red Cross will handle everything by cell phone unless we have more problems."

Martin said the net control station at the Red Cross still was being staffed around the clock "because we are using a VHF/UHF linked system to communicate with shelters in Cuero, Victoria, and other areas toward the coast."

Martin singled out three San Antonio-area hams for special recognition—Shelter Communications Manager Bobby Rodriguez, K5AUW, Red Cross Liaison Stan Stanukinos, KA5IID, and Teri Thomas, KC5BJI. "Bobby and Stan have been at the Red Cross communications center almost continuously since Saturday afternoon with only snatches of rest," he said. "Teri has done yeoman service in finding and scheduling operators."

Taylor said prompt response by a ham couple in his area, Comal County, made the difference between life and death of some residents of a flooded mobile home park there. Taylor said husband-and-wife team, Susan and Leo Manor, NF0T and N0ERI, went down to the trailer park to check out the situation. "nobody had warned these people," Taylor said of the residents. Using their vehicle, the Manors were able to pull several trailers to higher ground before the water got too deep. "At least we saved some lives there," he said.

Continued next page

Taylor also credited Comal County EC Todd Covington, N5IJR, with taking time away from his own flood-damaged home to roll out the PrimeCo communications van and pressing it into flood duty. Two repeaters in the van have been aiding Red Cross communication.

Taylor said linked repeaters have ensured wide coverage. In addition, hams in Texas made use of HF nets on 40 and 75 meters for regional coordination. In addition to helping the Red Cross, Taylor said, ham radio operators have been providing communication and other support for the Salvation Army, the Dallas-based Baptist Men's Kitchen feeding program, and other outside relief agencies.

SOLAR UPDATE

Solar sage Tad Cook, K7VVV, Seattle, Washington, reports: Solar activity was sharply lower last week. Average sunspot numbers dropped by well over half, and average solar flux declined over 17 points to around 109. This seems to be cyclical though, since the average solar flux was down to the same level four weeks ago, roughly corresponding to the rotation of the sun. Average solar flux for the previous 90 days declined this week from 132 to 131, and the solar flux values were far below this value on every day of the past week.

Conditions were fair for the DX contest and although solar activity was low, there was quite a

bit of activity on 10 meters, where the author of this bulletin operated mobile. An old IC-730—unused since the previous solar cycle—was dusted off, placed in the car, and—when hooked to a quarter-wave trunk mounted whip—it was clear that 10 meters was back. Here on the West Coast it was fascinating to observe the propagation following the sun, with many contacts to JA, VK and ZI around sunset.

KH6BZF sent a note on October 28 suggesting that we might have passed a temporary lull in solar activity. To support this idea, he noted several solar flux readings from the observatory in Penticton, British Columbia. These readings are taken three times per day, at 9 AM, noon and 3 PM local time, although it is the noon measurement that is used for the official solar flux number for the day.

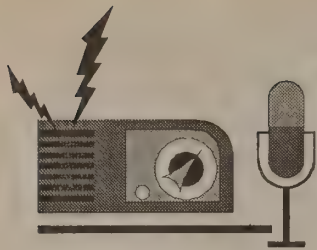
Look for unsettled geomagnetic conditions around November 3, and again from November 16-21, due to recurring coronal holes. Solar flux should remain above 120 through November 13, then retreat to 110 by November 20. This is all based on the previous solar rotation, so with luck perhaps some unseen new activity will rotate into view, improving HF propagation.

DON SINNOCK, W0RWH, SK

Well known VHF/UHF and EME op Don Sinnock, W0RWH, of LaPlata, Missouri, died October 24 after a lengthy illness. He was 59. Sinnock was an ARRL member.

Do you have a nomination for FAR's Ham of the Month?

Any licensed amateur radio operator in the *Auto-Call* subscription area who has contributed significantly to the amateur community can be nominated. Provide a narrative of 250 to 500 words describing the contributions of the nominee and forward to the FAR Ham of the Month nomination chairman, Tony Young, WA3YLO, at 12016 Long Ridge Lane, Bowie, MD 20715.



DX DX DX

By John Kanode,
N4MM

DX HELP FOR TECHNICIAN PLUS LICENSEES

Many Technician Plus licensees are now discovering all the DX that they can work on 10 Meter SSB. In the past several months, 10 Meters has really come alive with all kinds of DX and many Technician Plus hams, who for the most part were only active on 2 Meter FM, have discovered 10 Meters. They are having a good time working the DX, but many have little knowledge about the inter workings of DXing.

I get many questions about how to QSL, what is a QSL Bureau, what are SASE and IRCs, what is DXCC, WAC and WAZ? The first things that they should get if they are serious about DXing is the ARRL DXCC Countries List.

Other good items to get are the info sheets on how the ARRL QSL Bureau System works. These are handouts that are on the ARRL table at all hamfests or can be obtained from ARRL HQ.

Just send a self addressed envelope with first class postage to ARRL HQ for these info sheets. The DXCC Countries List can be purchased from ARRL HQ for \$3.00.

Another good item to have is the Radio Amateurs World Atlas. It is published by the DARC and is available from ARRL Publications. The ARRL Operating Manual would make a good addition to your Amateur Radio Book Shelf and has a lot of very good info on DXing and operating procedures.

If you are a Technician plus and want to enjoy

the thrill of DXing on 10 Meters and getting your DX Century Club Award, now is the time to start. Over the next few years, 10 Meters will get better and be open to all parts of the world most of the time. For those who are just Technician class licensees, now is the time to work on learning the code, so that you can participate in this thrilling and interesting part of Amateur Radio.

With many inexpensive second hand HF transceivers on the market, there is no problem with finding a suitable radio that will function just as well as new units on 10 meters. A short wire dipole antenna about 16 feet long will work but a three element yagi would be much better. Some who live in small areas and have problems with putting up antennas have installed their equipment in their car and operate mobile. countries from mobile operation.

UPCOMING DX CONTESTS

- ARRL 160 Meter Contest
December 4-6, 1998
- EA DX Contest
December 5-6, 1998
- ARRL 10 Meter Contest
December 12-13, 1998
- Croatian DX Contest
December 19-20, 1998
- RAC Canada Winter Contest
December 27, 1998

TIDBITS

The Central Arizona DX Association will be conducting a DXpedition from Myanmar from November 21 to December 6. A group of 10 operators will operate from the Inya Lake Hotel in Yangon using FT1000MP's and Alpha Amps. QSL's go to WIXT.

AYØZ and ZL9BI are reported to be pirate stations. Do not waste your time working these stations.

Continued next page

Nancy Draheim, NK4U has been elected Treasurer of the Southeastern DX Club for 1999. Nancy was very active with the National Capital DX Association and was the manager of the two letter prefix 4th Call Area QSL Bureau before she moved to Georgia several years ago.

US and Swiss amateurs can now obtain reciprocal licenses in Thailand. The calls will be in the H5ØZ— series.

Denise, F6HWU will be active as D68WU from November 15 to December 5. QSL via F6HWU.

Don, A92BE is now in Oman and will be active with the call A45XU until January 2000.

US postage rates go up to 33 cents on January 1, 1999. Be sure to send some one cent stamps to your QSL Bureau, so that they will not have to bear the cost of the increase in order to get your QSLs to you.

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR ARRL HAM RADIO TEACHER, INSTRUCTOR AND RECRUITER AWARDS

Each year the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) honors four dedicated Ham Radio instructors, teachers and recruiters. Clubs or individuals are asked to complete a nomination form for the nominees.

More information about the awards can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/ead/award/>. If you do not have internet access and would like a nomination form, please contact Jean Wolfgang, WB3IOS, (860-594-0219) in the ARRL Educational Activities Department. Nomination forms must then be sent to your ARRL Section Manager before January 31, 1999. A list of ARRL Section Managers is available at <http://www.arrl.org/field/org/smlist.html> or can be found on page 12 of any QST.

MARS REPORT

By Vinny Del Giudice WB2KQG/AFA2MI

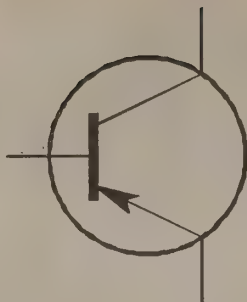
The USAF MARS Worldwide Space Support Net held a special session Oct. 29 to mark John Glenn's return to orbit aboard the space shuttle Discovery. Hundreds of stations from the three MARS services checked into the HF net.

Al Abercrombie AAR3KI/W2GJS has been appointed state director for Army MARS in Maryland, replacing the late David Platky AAA3MD/KA3SPS. Bill Melton AAR3EE/W3WON will replace Al as assistant state director for Army MARS in Maryland.

The chiefs of Air Force, Army and Navy-

Marine Corps MARS have authorized joint HF and VHF operations between affiliates of all the services. The Air Force and Army authorized joint operations in 1997.

After this year's successful field day exercise, the MARS chiefs approved quarterly HF propagation tests between affiliates of all the services. The tests are tentatively scheduled for the first weekends of February, May, August and November. Marvin Ward, AFB2LA/WA4GGY, an Air Force MARS affiliate from Alexandria, VA., became a silent key earlier this year, his family reports.



Amateur Radio Training

John Forrest WZ4A
6111 Burnett St., Alexandria, VA 22310
(703)971-3905

Please send announcements for training classes and club training contacts to WZ4A at the above address. Deadline is the 25th of the 2nd month prior to the *Auto Call* publication date (e.g., 25 December for the February issue).

Club Training Contacts

Alexandria RC	Rich Adamy KA4GFY	(703) 644-3920
Anne Arundel RC	Tony Young WA3YLO	(301) 262-1917
Arlington ARC	Mike Callahan NW3V	(703) 241-5618
Antietam Radio Assn.	Robert Long KD3JK	(301) 824-5132
BRATS (Baltimore)	Joe Chidester W3SHZ	(410) 602-0353
Baltimore ARC	HAM-TALK, BARC Voice Mail	(410) HAM-TALK x3835
Central MD ARC	Jim Tilton KD3JA	(301) 552-0012
Dulles ARG	Michael Weber WB8RDN	(703) 450-2304
Fauquier ARA	Neil Spokes AB4YK	(540) 364-3861
Frederick ARC	Hal Silverman W3HWC	(301) 831-7946
Historical Electronics ARC	Rol Anders K3RA	(410) 969-0410
Laurel ARC	Pud Reaver W3YD	(301) 498-6293
Mid-Atlantic DX Assn.	Michael Vaia, WB8VBW	(301) 738-3861
Madras	Larry Ziecheck, N3GKZ	(301) 984-6113
MD Mobileers ARC	Bruce Colburn AA3KR	(410) 437-1891
Montgomery ARC	Rocky Jones KC4UXO	(301) 216-5210
Mt. Vernon ARC	John Forrest WZ4A	(703) 971-3905
NASA/Goddard ARC	Vikki Gigante KA3PVS	(301) 249-2609
Ole VA Hams ARC	Charles Dale WA4YGI	(703) 361-3091
Pentagon ARC	David Boyd K9MX	(540) 659-6241
St. Marys Co. ARC	Peter Butt WA3UMY	(301) 862-2214
Shenandoah Val ARC	Fred Wetzel W4KRT	(540) 678-0394
Southern MD ARC	Vic Curtis WA3YUV	(301) 888-1388
Southern Pax ARC	Dwayne Kincaid WD8OYG	(410) 586-2177
Stafford Adult Ed	Jerry Mullinix AC4HK	(540) 659-3905
Sterling Park ARC	Forrest Snyder N4UTY	(703) 430-4149
Tri-County ARC	John Creel WB3GXW	(301) 572-5124
Vienna Wireless	Kerry Kingham, WA4BQM	(703) 691-2719
Woodbridge Wireless	Jim Duffey WD4AIR	(703) 491-3170



Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

JOHN FORREST WZ4A
6111 Burnett St.
Alexandria, VA, 22310
(703) 971-3905

* ATTENTION VE's: It's time to plan your 1999 test dates. 1999 dates will appear in Autocall soon. Also, copies of the 1999 AUTOCALL exam schedule will be distributed to local ham radio stores around the middle of December. Please send your 1999 information to WZ4A as soon as possible.

* Volunteer Examiners may refuse to test any applicant who fails to demonstrate to the VE's satisfaction that the memories in the applicant's calculator are empty. If you bring a calculator to an exam, please be prepared to demonstrate that your memories are empty.

* Effective January 1, 1998, the maximum FCC authorized exam fee is \$6.39.

1998 Schedule of Examinations

December 3 (Thursday)	Martinsburg, WV -Mid-Atlantic DX & Repeater Assn.(ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Walk-Ins Accepted, Contact: Gregory Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792, kuan@visuallink.com, Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117, Alan-Moeck@juno.com
December 6 (Sunday)	Landover, MD - DCMARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day (301)773-2898 Night

Don't forget to bring your license when upgrading!!

December 12 (Saturday)	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510 WebSite: http://www.mvarc.org
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083
	Cumberland, MD - (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674

December 13 (Sunday)	Middletown, VA - Winchester ARS (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 Gregory Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 KUAN@visuallink.com
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January 3 (Sunday)	Landover, MD - DCMARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day (301)773-2898 Night
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January 9 (Saturday)	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: John Forrest WZ4A (703)971-3905 Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083

TRAINING CLASSES

GENERAL CLASS UPGRADE CLASS: The Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club is conducting a training program for amateurs wishing to upgrade to General Class. Theory and code will be covered. The classes will be from 6:30 to 9:30PM on Tuesday evenings and will run from 20 September to 15 December 1998. Location is the museum in Linthicum, MD (near BWI airport) adjacent to the BWI Marriott Hotel at the intersection of West Nursery Road and Elkins Landing Road. The course is open to all licensed amateurs at no charge. For information and registration, contact Rol Anders K3RA at (410)796-4792.

Don't forget to bring your license when upgrading!!



Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

EXAM FEES:

- * Check for appropriate exam fee. Fees and modes of payment for individual VECs and exam teams may vary.
- * ARRL VEC exams cost \$6.35
- * Laurel VEC exams are free
- * W5YI VEC exams cost \$6.35

BRING TO EXAM:

- * Picture identification
- * Completed FCC form 610 (most VE teams will supply at exam)
- * Original and a copy of current FCC amateur radio license
- * Originals and copies of all active certificates of successful completion of prior exams
- * Exam fee (check or cash depending on VE team)

"GRANDFATHER" CREDIT FOR ELEMENT 3B (GENERAL WRITTEN):

- * If you presently hold a Technician class license which was first issued prior to March 21, 1987, you may be grandfathered for Element 3B (General class written exam) by presenting the original and a copy of the license dated prior to March 21, 1987 to the VE team. It is your responsibility to prove that you are entitled to grandfathering. Do not lose your original license!

RULES FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE FAR VOLUNTEER EXAMINER COOPERATIVE:

1. All submissions must be in writing
2. Date and day of week must be specified for each exam date
3. Point of contact and phone number must be specified
4. Sponsor and location must be specified
5. VEC must be specified
6. Exam dates up to 12 months in advance will be accepted
7. Deadline for submission is 25th of the 2nd month prior to publication date (e.g., January 25 for March issue)



Alexandria Radio Club

Meetings: Second Friday of each month, 7:30 PM at the Alexandria Fire Department Administrative Office (co-located with Fire Station #54), 900 Second St., Alexandria, VA

Nets: Every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. on 147.315 output / 147.915 input. (W4HFH repeater)

Web page: <http://members.aol.com/N4CWP/W4HFH.HTML> (or search on Yahoo: W4HFH or Alexandria Radio Club).

Information: Rich -KA4GFY, 703-644-3920.

October was a busy month for the Alexandria radio club. We entertained about 30 boy and girl scouts at the Jamboree on the Air. The scouts were able to talk with other scouts and learn a little about amateur radio. We also braved the 18,000 or so runners at the Marine Corps Marathon. Several members turned out to provide communications support. It was a very early morning. Fortunately, there are places open 24 hours to serve people crazy enough to be getting up at 4am.

Our December meeting should be quite interesting. One of members works for a consulting company that has been involved with High Definition Television. It's the newest technology in the broadcast industry. A couple of the stations in the local area are beginning to test the equipment. For now, the only people who can see the HDTV are the broadcasters themselves. Like many innovations in electronics, the cost is high to begin with, but as more people buy the equipment, the price gradually lowers to a reasonable level for the rest of us. The equipment is also expensive for the TV stations themselves. Stay tuned, HDTV should be coming to a TV near you.

Don't forget our net on Thursdays at 8pm on the 147.315 and 444.600 repeaters.

73, Rich, KA4GFY



Antietam Radio Association

Meetings: First and Third Tuesday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Washington County Regional Airport, Showalter Road, Hagerstown, Maryland.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 52, Hagerstown, MD. 21741

Nets: Tuesday 7 p.m. 146.940 MHz.; Wednesday 7 p.m. 447.975 MHz.; Thursday 7 p.m. 147.090 MHz.

Repeaters: 147.09+ and 146.94 -.

Information: Donnie Sue Mulligan/KB3AOO (301) 582-2984

Ten members of the Antietam Radio Association volunteered for the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on September 26, 1998 at the Washington County Regional Airport for the Disaster Drill.

Thanks go to Charlie Anderson/NF3X for coordinating the event for the ARA, Jack/W3NHR, Carlo/K3ABH, Carl/WN3DUG, Jack/KA3JHL, Dave/N3ZPC, Grace/N3ZPD, Charlie/N3MVR Stan/W3YGC, and Donnie Sue/KB3AOO.

We were told that a loaded 19-passenger jetstream commuter aircraft had struck a private single-engine plane that had crossed its path on the runway while the jet was taking off at 10 a.m. and that the right wing of the jet struck the tail section of the small Piper Lance, destroying the jet's aileron.

The jet rolled and crashed north of the runway and broke into several pieces. Some passengers were ejected, others were trapped in the burning wreckage.

There were supposed to be five people killed. And the pilot of the small plane, who disregarded tower instructions when he crossed into the path

of the jet, was shaken, but not injured. His passenger, a woman who is seven months pregnant, went into labor while still in the plane.

It was an interesting and educational morning with the SET ending at noon. We went to the Maugansville Fire Department where they had our lunch, and listened to the FAA, the National Transportation Safety Board, some of the officials of the airport, and others critique their and our performance. We communicated very well for the Airport Disaster Drill!

On Sunday afternoon, October 18, fifteen members of the ARA communicated for the Smithsburg Area Churches Association (SACA) CROP WALK for the hungry. Thanks, to Charlie Mulligan/N3MVR for coordinating the event for the ARA, Stan Klick/W3YGC for bicycle mobiling all over the route and back again and again, Donnie Sue for Net Control, Mike/N3WSP, Page/WA3EOP, Carlo/K3ABH, Tina/KB8ZQM, Don/KB8WHW, Nick/N3ZHI, Gene/N3MZB, Dave/N3ZPC, Grace/N3ZPD, Gary/K3CWC, John/N3TDN, and Matt/N3XJO for being at their stations.

It was such a beautiful day, a wee bit warm for the walkers, but everyone enjoyed the Sunday. Rev. Dean Mouk, Pastor of the Welty Church of the Brethren, said we did a wonderful job and would see us back in Smithsburg again next year. We'll be there with bells on!

There will be the Alsatia Mummers' Parade, JFK Ultramarathon, and so much more I can tell you about next time. So...Until then, have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

73, Donnie Sue/KB3AOO



Reminder - all submissions for

AUTO E-AR CALL

are due no later than
the 1st of the month prior to the
month of publication!!



Arlington Amateur Radio Club

Meeting: Third Tuesday of each month, 7:30 P.M., Red Cross building, 4333 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA. Nonmembers welcome!

Net: Tuesdays (except meeting nights), 7:30 P.M., 144.87/145.47 Mhz FM.

Information: Mike Callaham, NW3V @ W3TOM, callaham@tmn.com, (703) 241-5618.

WWW: <http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Lab/4306/>

Minutes of the September 15, 1998 meeting of the Arlington Amateur Radio Club

Vice-President Dennis W4PWF called the meeting to order at 2005L. Also attending were Tom N4BYF, Mike KA8OPJ,

Mike NW3V, and guest Gary KA7PLB. Gary works as a telecommunications coordinator for the Alexandria Chapter.

The minutes of the August meeting as published in the Beacon, and the treasurer's report as submitted, were approved.

Old business: There is still a need for more volunteers to participate in the "Rock and Roll" disaster exercise.

New business: NW3V reported that JOTA will be the third weekend in October. Approximately 45 Cubs from Pack #637 will visit W4WVP. Additional volunteers are welcome to take part. The Alexandria club and Rick, N4ASX have inquired about FD99, and suggested a possible joint activity at Ft. Ward Park. We'll continue dialogue. The meeting was adjourned at 2022L for presentation by NW3V, on DSP and other software-based radio design.

Minutes of the October 20, 1998 meeting of the Arlington Amateur Radio Club

President Jack WA4FXX called the meeting to order at 1938L. Also attending were Tom N4BYF, Walt KT4EL, Alan KD4FRK, Gerald N4GA, Mike KA8OPJ, Dennis, W4PWF, Chester, KB4UGF, and Mike NW3V.

The minutes of the September meeting and the treasurer's report were read and approved.

Old business: The "Rock and Roll" disaster exercise identified some strengths and weaknesses. Employers' flexibility allowed WA4FXX and NW3V to participate during daytime hours. We learned that a 2m base rig with PL and easier entry are needed at W4WVP. The 47 MHz Red Cross radios have insufficient coverage to Prince William and Fauquier counties. A scanner for cross-band monitoring would be useful. We were reminded that groups served by Red Cross in addition to disaster victims (e.g., office and hotel occupants) and non-command traffic might be encountered.

WA4FXX suggested that a propagation survey, including alternate command sites and strategic locations, would be useful.

WA4FRK, Chris Cubbison, and others will meet Thursday in regard to keys and the Chapter generator. The present 5 KW unit is over 55 years old.

New business: Under activities, NW3V predicts that the Leonids shower during the November meeting will benefit SE Asia more than North America. He has installed Baycom, KA9Q NOS, MINIMUF, a orbit program, and some other goodies on an XT clone in W4WVP. The 20+ visitors for JOTA mostly enjoyed other modes besides packet.

Advisory meetings on Arlington County's draft antenna ordinance continue. Existing towers are expected to be grandfathered, but each proposed provision (guys, paint, lot location, etc.) needs to be discussed. KD4FRK prepared to discuss local

emergency response history as examples of why amateur antennas should not be restricted. Others continue to debate aesthetics, safety, law, etc.

KD4FRK announced that Tom Protz N4BYF has graduated from Assistant EC for Arlington County to Emeritus status. In honor of his significant contributions of time, labor, and other resources, Alan presented Tom with a plaque ("Certificate of Merit") to remind him how much we value him. WA4FXX moved, W4PWF seconded, and all present unanimously agreed to recognize and acclaim Tom for his many years of exemplary service.

Videotaped coverage of FD98, assembled by Channel 31 as part of a story on local emergency response, was shown. KD4FRK was featured prominently.

W4PWF briefly described a special ARRL Board of Directors meeting concerning the NPRM on license restructuring and enforcement. Dennis' efforts concerning ARRL vanity plates met with success; expect a letter from DMV in Dec-Jan with an invitation and instructions.

The meeting was adjourned at 2048L to W4WVP, where NW3V showed recent changes. Respectfully submitted,

Mike KA8OPJ, Secretary



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Eugene, OR 97401-4017
<http://www.teleport.com/~qcwa>

1998 Maryland DC QSO Party Claimed Scores

Single Ops MDC

1. WA3DCG 1277 x 102 130,254
2. KE3VV 801 x 71 56,871
3. NS3X 764 x 65 49,660
4. WA3EOP 801 x 34 27,234
5. N3WD 686 x 31 21,266
6. WB3GEJ 404 x 47 18,988
7. WB3ABC 273 x 28 7,644
8. K3TNM 236 x 26 6,136
9. KG6TU 171 x 28 4,788
10. N3QFS 256 x 18 4,608

OTHERS

- WA3EOQ 162 x 24 3,912
K3NJ 158 x 20 3,160
KB3BPN 126 x 20 2,520
W3UT 113 x 19 2,147 (all cw)
KO4A 137 x 11 1,507
N0NY 105 x 14 1,470
K5ME 229 x 5 1,143
K3ABH 130 x 5 650
W3FZT 108 x 5 540

Clubs

1. KB3BLK 1833 x 87 159,471 (Laurel A.R.C.)
 2. K3PZN 1307 x 74 96,718 (Carroll County A.R.C.)
 3. N3AC 653 x 56 36,568 (Columbia A.R.A.)
 4. W3HAM 705 x 37 26,085 (Cheese Hollow A.R.S.)
 5. W3CWC 604 x 32 19,328 (Antietam Radio Assoc.)
- Others!
- W3CU 456 x 38 17,328 (Maryland Mobileers)*
W3VPR 319 x 37 11,803 (Anne Arundel Radio Club)
KB3BLR 224 x 33 7,392 (Central MD A.R.C.)
W3FT 223 x 19 4,237 (Baltimore A.R.C.)
KB3BPZ 205 x 17 3,485 (Baltimore ARES)
W3GR 97 x 24 2,328 (Historical Elec. Museum)*

* - First Time in Party

Techs

- KA3PNI 635 x 11 6,985*
N3KHK 255 x 24 6,120
N3VGS 379 x 8 3,032
N3WIZ 112 x 16 1,792
N3SOK 154 x 10 1,540
K3CWC 215 x 5 1,075
N3TDN 147 x 5 735
N3ZPD 125 x 5 625
N3ZPC 115 x 5 575
N3ZHI 75 x 3 225
N3VOE 63 x 2 126
* - First YL to win a Major Category !!!

Mobiles

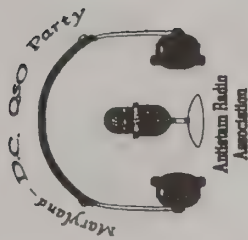
- WB3AKD 513 x 33 16,929
K3UMV 635 x 11 6,985
KA3PNI 635 x 11 6,985
N3VOE 63 x 2 126

International Category

1. WA3HAE 553 x 18 9,954 PA
2. VA3IX 238 x 13 3,094 ONT
3. AAINZ 154 x 15 2,310 NH
- WAIQVM 118 x 15 1,770 MA QRP++
- NA3V 112 x 12 1,344 PA QRP+
- WB0IWG 21 x 2 42 PA QRP
- K3WWP 13 x 2 26 PA QRP
- N2CQ 109 x 10 1,090 NJ QRP+
- KB0WHY 104 x 7 728 NE+
- KB8WHW 225 x 6 1,350 WV Tech+
- KB8ZQM 208 x 6 1,248 WV YL+
- KB8YJX 219 x 5 1,095 WV
- AAINZ 38 x 6 228 NH QRP
- NNJ 171 x 13 2,223 RI+
- KF9GP 131 x 11 1,441 WI+
- W9BLI 28 x 5 140 WI
- WA2BQI 112 x 13 1,456 NY+
- NY3C 119 x 12 1,428 DEL+
- KF4ZR 98 x 13 1,274 TN+
- N3JR/m 21 x 3 63 TN
- WB2JAF/5 25 x 3 75 MS+

Out of Maryland Club

- NY4N 423 x 17 7,191 TN Club
++ - International QRP Champ
* - Regional Category Winner



Laurel Amateur Radio Club wins Club Category an unprecedented 3rd Time!

Operating from the home QTH of W3YD the Laurel ARC, KA3PNI 635 x 11 6,985 on Saturday wracked up a winning score in this category.

K3PZN, the Carroll County Club with a great effort rises from #3 to #2. NSAC, the Columbia ARA, a one time sponsor of this event remained strong at #3. Scores for both K3PZN and NSAC were significantly higher this year. W3HAM scored at #4 with an improved effort from last year.

Nobody Does It Better

Tom Bishel WA3DCG wins MDC Single Op a Second Time. Tom more than Doubled his score from last year. KESV's second place score would have been enough to win Last Year. NS3X moved up from 7th to 3rd spot. WA3EOP moved from 9th to 4th.

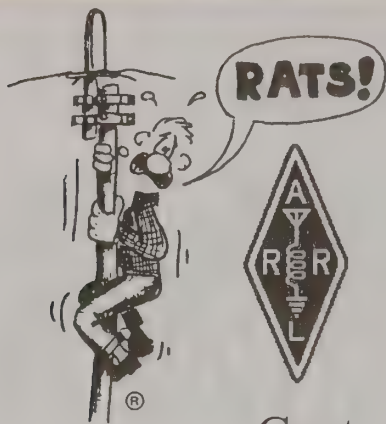
Next Year's Party
August 14 & 15
Don't Miss It!

YL wins Tech PLAQUE!

Pam Drager, KA3PNI operates mountaintop mobile to win the first ever TECH Plaque awarded in this category. Pam, a YL, also wins the YL Division. Both Divisions were stronger this year. Her score of 6,985 sets a new record in these categories! John Klim, N3KHK finished a Strong Second to Pam. John was second to NSVGS last year. John, like AVIS you got to try just a little harder.

The Internegory Category was dominated a second year by Keith Pederson, WA3HAE. Ken Ellis, VA3IX moves to second place and MDC Party newcomer, AAINZ takes 3rd!

Tom Dawson, WB3AKD wins the Mobile Category for the second time. Tom improved his score by 32%! We take a moment to remember Mike Moseley, WB3HUP, the only person to win this category 3 times. Mike became a Silent Key earlier this year.



FROSTFEST '99

Presented by the Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society

AMATEUR RADIO & COMPUTER SHOW

Central Virginia's Largest Electronic Flea Market!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 1999

The Showplace, 3000 Mechanicsville Turnpike, Richmond, Virginia - Show Hours 8³⁰am - 3³⁰pm

65,000 SQ. FOOT INDOOR FLEA MARKET!
NATIONAL AND LOCAL VENDORS with over 400 tables and more than 3200 eager buyers; some of this year's best deals will be made. See all the latest radio and computer gear. National and local experts can answer your technical questions. Demonstrations of new products from ICOM, YAESU, KENWOOD, ALINCO, STANDARD and more! Meet your friends, enjoy the show, and get that hard to find item, plus **BIG SAVINGS!**

BUY, SELL OR TRADE. HURRY FOR THE BEST BARGAINS!

TALK-IN Sunday, 6 a.m. - Noon. 146.88 Repeater

FREE PRIZES

Register to win radio transceivers, radio antennas, accessories, and computer accessories. Hourly drawings! Major prizes drawn at 3:00 p.m.

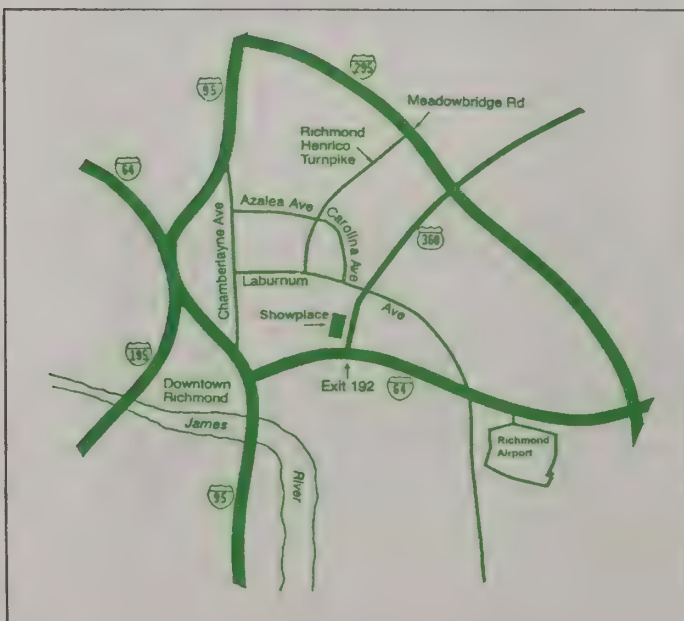
Vendors set-up from 1:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 16th, and from 6 a.m. 'till 8 a.m. on the day of the show. Drive-in for unloading will be available Saturday ONLY! No drive-in on Sunday!

FREE FORUMS

Learn about the latest trends in amateur radio and computers, M.A.R.S., and Y2K concerns!

FREE PARKING

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Frostfest Info Line, (804) 739-2269 box FEST(3378) or Find us on the Internet at <http://frostfest.rats.net>



Approaching from the NORTH on I-95:

Come south on I-95 until you reach Exit 75 (Interstate 64 East) / Take the exit for Interstate 64 East (towards Norfolk - Virginia Beach) / Go approximately 1.5 miles to Exit 192 (Route 360) / Take Exit 192 for Route 360 East / Go approximately a half mile, and turn left into The Showplace.

Approaching from the SOUTH on I-95:

Come up I-95 until you reach Exit 75 in Richmond. (This will be an exit for I-64 East) / Take Exit 75 for I-64 East (towards Norfolk - Virginia Beach) / Go approximately 1.5 miles to Exit 192 (Route 360) / Take Exit 192 for Route 360 East / Go approximately a half mile, and turn left into The Showplace.

Approaching from the EAST on I-64:

As you approach Richmond, take the exit for Route 360 East (Mechanicsville Turnpike - Exit 192) / Go approximately a half mile, and turn left into The Showplace.

Approaching from the WEST on I-64:

Come east on I-64 and take Exit 187. (This is an exit for Interstate 64 East/Interstate 95 South, which places you on the combined stretch of I-95/I-64 that runs through the center of Richmond.) / Go approximately 4 miles and take Exit 75 for I-64 East (towards Norfolk - Virginia Beach) / Go approximately 1.5 miles to Exit 192 (Route 360) / Take Exit 192 for Route 360 East / Go approximately a half mile, and turn left into The Showplace.



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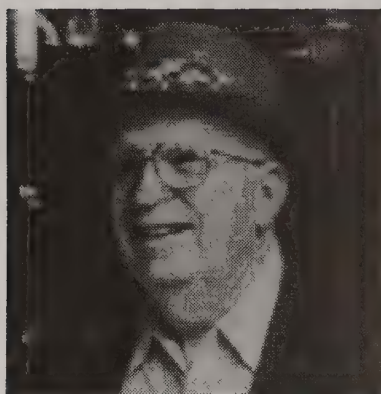
FOR INFORMATION ABOUT JOINING WRITE TO:

GMRA

Box 523

Bowie, MD 20718

E-mail: mgreen@erols.com



Foundation for Amateur Radio



HAM OF THE YEAR John Swafford, W4HU

Selecting John Swafford as the Foundation for Amateur Radio's Ham of the Year award is both a pleasure and a challenge: A pleasure because he is so richly deserving of the honor, but a challenge because it would be easy to overlook the myriad of amateur activities he's been involved with.

John was born in Tacoma, Washington but was raised in Kansas, where, WØCMY, his Elmer, helped set him on dual lifetime paths of professional and amateur radio. John was licensed as W9KRV in 1940.

He began his professional communications career in 1941 with Northwest Airlines, then served with the Army in the Yukon and Alaska in 1942 & 1943. From 1946 to 1951, he was chief engineer of broadcasting station KWBW in Kansas.

From 1951 to 1967, John held a series of Army positions, working on communication projects in the U.S., Africa, Europe, and the Middle East. From 1962 to 1965, while assigned to Frankfurt and Heidelberg, he was licensed as DL5DF.

In 1967, John accepted a position with the Department of State, with responsibility for HF and VHF circuits in Washington and at U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. He settled in Arlington, was assigned W4YAF, and became active in a wide range of amateur radio activities, including DXing, traffic handling, and contesting.

He led years-long efforts to organize the Department of State Amateur Radio Club in the late 1960s and early 1970s and was elected its first President. Over the years he has been involved in

the installation and maintenance of the club's equipment and antennas, in its participation in ARRL Field Day, and in the Annual Foreign Service Amateur Radio Banquets, sponsored by the Department of State and Voice of America ARCs.

Since 1971, John has acted as Net Control for the Foreign Service Net, held Sundays to link up Foreign Service personnel licensed as radio amateurs, with each other and with their Civil Service and retired counterparts.

John is perhaps best known for his service as National Secretary of the Quarter Century Wireless Association from 1989 to 1996. He was elected to the QCWA Board of Directors in 1998 and is past president of QCWA's Vic Clark Chapter 91.

As readers of *Auto-Call* are aware, John is the magazine's Circulation Manager and writes its monthly ARRL Report. Since 1976, he has volunteered at the National Museum of American History of the Smithsonian Institution, operating amateur station NN3SI and acquainting visitors with amateur radio.

John is a past Director of Society of Wireless Pioneers Chapter 10. He is a life member of the ARRL and for years served as an Official Observer. He has been active in Air Force MARS. He also belongs to VWOA, SOWP, OOTC, the Radio Club of America, AFCEA, and IEEE.

For all of his amateur radio work, both nationally and locally, the Foundation for Amateur Radio is honored to select John Swafford, W4HU, as the Foundation's Ham of the Year!



Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Meetings: Twice monthly, 7:30 pm at IE Shop #3 of Dulaney Senior High School at 7:30 pm. -First Wednesday of the month - business meeting, Third Wednesday of the month - program.

Repeaters: W3FT/RPTR 146.67(-), 224.24 (-) (no PL) and 449.625(-)(PL 107.2) Note: two meter/220 Mhz. repeaters are linked.

Club Net: 2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesdays at 6:45 PM or after the Baltimore Traffic Net on 146.67/224.24 repeaters.

NTS Net: Daily at 6:30 pm on 146.670/224.240

Information: (410) HAMTALK

Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest/Maryland State ARRL Convention information: (410) HAM-FEST or (800) HAM-FEST.

Club Address: BARC, Inc., P.O. BOX 120, Reisterstown MD 21136

Internet Address: <http://www.baltarc.com>

E-Mail Address: info@baltarc.com

Hi John here is the info from BARC. Please note that I have a new vanity call.

The annual awards banquet will be held on Saturday, December 19th at 6:30 PM in Towson, at the American Legion Post #22.

The business meetings have been lively lately with discussion of revising the club's bylaws. Several people have put much work into a proposal that was to be reviewed by the general membership at the November meeting, just after the deadline for this submission.

Our Program Chairman, Jim Green, WB3DJU, has been busy lining up guest speakers for our program meetings. Topics have included Lowbands (below 530khz), RFI detection and resolution, code key manufacturing and NASA

Communication Satellites. The work is very much appreciated by the club members and the speakers have been enjoying their visits.

The Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest committee is hard at work preparing for our BIG March event, which will be held on March 27 & 28, 1999. If more information is needed, please contact our web page at www.gbhc.org.

Also keep in mind, we are having our annual "The BARC its Free Minifest". It will be held on the third Wednesday in January.

Well, that's about it from Baltimore.

73s de Val W3VAL



Capital City Amateur Radio Society

Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month at 1200 hours at the Woodridge Public Library, 18th and Rhode Island Ave, N.E., Washington, D.C. Visitors welcome.

Repeater: W3ETX 144.51/145.11 MHz, open.

Nets: Computer Monday at 2000 hrs., Regular net Wednesday at 2000 hrs. RTTY net Thursday 2100 hrs., voice portion 2145 hrs. all on 145.110.

Mailing Address CCARS P.O. Box 92304 Washington, D.C. 20090-2304

Information: Steve, W3ETX, (202) 526-1329 or Chester, W3EIL (202) 529-9598, Joe K3UAL (301) 773-5074 EMail K3UAL@Juno.com.

CCARS held it's monthly meeting at the Woodridge Library, 18th and Rhode Island Avenue. N.E. Washington, D.C., Saturday, October 17 1998 at 12 noon. Presiding was our president Cooley WA3HPS.. A DX and Contest up-date was

presented on a radio hook-up through our repeater from her QTH by Sharon KA3DOV. Shep WB3KIC reported Juanita N3NQC is recovering from her illness.

Steve W3ETX gave a Repeater-Operations report, the back-up repeater is in operation and doing a fine job, the main repeater is off for repairs. Joe K3UAL reports that all members are asked to contribute info to him on club affairs for publication.

Our Nets are operating, Computer Net Mondays at 8:00 p.m. and regular club net Wednesday nite at 8:00 p.m., 145.11. Ten check-ins participated on the 10-21-98.

Plans are being formulated for CCARS Annual Birthday Party in February a number of sites other than and including Ft. McNair officers club will be considered.

A Scholarship Committee report was submitted by Willis N3LGB. This meeting was highlighted by a number of Door prizes donated by Shep WB3KIC and Colin N3UBI. Eniz XYL of Silent Key Chester W3EIL. donated all of his magazines subscriptions for door prizes for the balance of the year.

A well prepared collation was presented for the clubs delight by Cooley WA3HPS. The December collation will be sponsored by CCARS for your Holiday delight.

73's JoeK3UAL



Reminder - all submissions for

AUTO CALL

are due no later than
the 1st of the month prior to the
month of publication!!



Charles County Amateur Radio Club

Meeting: General membership meeting first Friday of every month at 7:30 PM in the Charles County Government Building, Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP), La Plata, MD. Non-members are very welcome.

Mailing Address: Charles County Amateur Radio Club, Inc., P.O. Box 668 White Plains, MD 20695-0668.

Repeaters: KA3GRW/R, 443.700+, LaPlata, W6QMN/R 145.39+ (PL 7Z), Bryantown, MD

Repeater Trustees: KA3GRW, Mike Tackish W7UH, Bob Adams.

Club Call Sign: K3SMD

Website: <http://www.ql.net/k3smd>

Information: Mike/KA3GRW (301)609-9298 or Gary/K3GRG (301)645-7465

Congratulations are in order for one of our club members. Jim Gormley, N3SFY recently upgraded to General Class. He even passed the Extra code element. Great job!

An antenna party was recently held at the home of Wes W3ERU. Willie W1ZX, JD W3SMD and Tom W3TOM made a nice day of it assisting with the installation of a new beam. Watch for those big signals coming from the W3ERU shack! I know that Tom W3TOM and Steve K2XLR have been busy doing some tower work at Tom's place also. He already has an antenna farm, what else could he possibly want? Another farm?

Jim K3DRJ and Joe WB3IUT have been very busy instructing their students. The training class is now 10 sessions old and doing very well. Comments from the students always include how long they had waited for such an opportunity to be available in their neighborhood. You guys are doing a great job! Thanks on behalf of all in the club!

Our training and traffic net meets on the KA3GRW Repeater, most Tuesday nights at 8:00 p.m. We suspend the net on Communications Exercise (COMMEX) nights. Please check-in and join us! See you at 443.700 MHz!

This is a QST! All of you amateurs in the local area (Charles, St. Mary's, Calvert, Prince George's Counties, and Virginia) that are not having fun on Friday night's, well I have a deal for you. We are having lot's of fun at our monthly meetings. Guest speakers hold us captive with very interesting topics.

Group discussion is always plentiful and rag chew is never in short supply. Vicky N3OAD surprise's us with a new morsel of culinary delight after each meeting. You really don't want to miss it! We ask all interested amateurs come have fun with us. Our meeting information is in the header.

A few of us meet Saturday mornings for breakfast in the local area. The fellowship is fantastic. The food is great and the conversation better! Come on out and join us!

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and are getting ready for Christmas. It will be here very soon. Have you given that special someone your gift list? I gave her my three ring binder six month's ago!

We are celebrating our first anniversary as a club. Like all of your clubs, there have been bumps along the way. But, we are still here and growing everyday, with the fun the hobby and it's people generate. Until next month,

Mike Tackish KA3GRW



Reminder - all submissions for

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Columbia Amateur Radio Association

Club meeting: 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m., at the Bethany United Methodist Church, Bethany Lane, Ellicott City.

Net: 147.135 repeater at 8:30 p.m. each Tuesday except for meeting nights.

Repeaters: 147.735/147.135, PL control of 156.7 (cross-linked to 222.32/223.92); 147.990/147.390 (autopatch & direct dial 911); 222.32/223.92 (cross-linked to 147.735/147.135); 443.275/448.275, and 444.475/449.475 (autopatch & direct dial 911).

Other club stations: HF all mode 2-meter FM 2-meter 1200 baud packet (AX.25) on 145.690.

Information: Bob Scarburgh, Pres - KC3EV, (410) 465-2421.

Website: <http://www.clark.net/pub/jrmassi/caranews.html>

Mailing: P.O. Box 911, Columbia, MD 21044

CARA Hamfest

It was a tough weather day for the CARA Hamfest on October 4, 1998. Despite forecasts of clearing, the low clouds and drizzle plagued us all day. This kept our attendance down, but judging from the club turnout and participation, our spirits remained high.

Dave Prestel (W8AJR), our Hamfest Chairman, did an excellent job of organizing and executing his first CARA Hamfest. In fact he did such a good job, we have rewarded him with the task again next year. Thanks Dave.

Club Meetings

The October CARA meeting welcomed Don Bobert from the Columbia Operations Center of the FCC. Don demonstrated the Mobile Digital Direction Finding (MDDF) vehicle used by the FCC to triangulate on signal sources. This sophisticated 4X4 contains HF, VHF/UHF

receivers, GPS tracking capability, and several special antennas built by the staff at the Center.

The 4X4 cockpit is ringed by touch screen technology and very user friendly equipment. Don also briefed us on the recent changes in the FCC's Compliance and Information Bureau (CIB).

All investigative, evaluation, and processing of radio amateur related enforcement matters have been transferred to the CIB.

We plan to have a fox hunting program at our November 24, 1998 meeting where we will also hold our annual elections. There is no club meeting in December.

Club Scholar

CARA is proud of its own Eddie Cabic (N3IHX) who won the BARC \$1,000 scholarship. Eddie has been a ham since 1990 and is a member of CARA. A graduate of Wilde Lake High School (WLHS) where he founded both the WLHS Computer Club and the Television Club,

Eddie has served as president of both those organizations and served as webmaster for the school.

Last spring he ended his second consecutive term as WLHS Communications Director, directing the morning PA audio announcements and the "WLHS Today" TV show.

All that experience has paid off, because Eddie has already been selected to be a DJ at the Cornell radio station. Eddie often served as the net control operator for the weekly CARA net where his dad, Ed (KE3MO), still serves in that capacity. CARA is proud of this outstanding member of the club and wishes him continued success during his college career.

Hope you have a wonderful holiday season.

de Tim/N3ZXQ



Dulles Amateur Radio Group

On-the-air meeting: Tuesdays at 8:00pm on the Dulles repeater

Repeater: N4FSC, 145.310- (near Dulles airport)

Mail: Dulles Amateur Radio Group, P.O. Box 5073, Herndon, VA 20172-1964

Home Page: www.darg.org.

Email: darg@darg.org.

Club callsign: W4DLS

Information: Mike Weber, WB8RDN, 703-450-2304.

The Dulles Amateur Radio Group (DARG) is a family-oriented ham radio club affiliated with the N4FSC repeater in Dulles, VA. Membership is open to all, and the club holds several social operating events every year. Dues are \$20/yr. for your entire family; members have access to the repeater's autopatch, and dues include a 1 year subscription or renewal to Auto-Call. All area hams are warmly invited to join our information net on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 PM on the N4FSC repeater, 145.310-.

Loudoun Hospital Emergency Drill

For the past few months DARG's special relationship with the Loudoun Hospital has been, well, dormant. We're happy to report that this will change on December 12th (which has turned out to be a very busy day indeed for DARG's membership).

People employed by the hospital who were responsible for emergency planning had taken up other jobs, and the hospital's emergency/disaster committee was on hiatus through the summer and well into the fall. Now restructured, they intent on restarting things.

In light of these changes, DARG will be supporting the Loudoun Hospital Emergency Drill on Saturday December 12 and needs your assistance. The event will be a simulated snowstorm and simultaneous simulated internal phone system outage.

Approximately 30 amateurs with 70 CM (440 MHz) and 2 M handheld equipment will be needed. For more information, please see the details on DARG.Org, where you can let us know that you wish to volunteer by filling out an on-line form. Or check into the Tuesday 8PM net on the Dulles repeater (145.310 -600). You may also contact Mike Weber (WB8RDN) at 703-450-2304 for more details or to volunteer your services.

Later that evening...

On the same day, Saturday December 12th at 8:00 PM, DARG will hold it's annual Holiday party from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at St. Matthews Episcopal Church in Sterling.

You won't want to miss this because somebody's going to leave with a new Icom IC-Q7A Ultra Compact 2 Meter/440 MHz Dual Bander Handheld with Full Feature Scanner. (You don't have to be present to win the grand prize, but it will certainly be a lot more fun if you're there.) There are several other prizes which may be won only by those in attendance. Which, of course, means you!

I predict that the party will be a great success. Clairvoyant? No, it's a great success every year due to the hard work of Marcia (KD4ITP) and her hard working assistants. The guy with the red suit and eight tiny reindeer doesn't show up at just any party. Not only that, but Santa may be there, too.

But before that...

Don't forget DARG's Trustee meeting at 5:00 PM, immediately prior to the start of the holiday party, and at the same location. Come by and speak your piece, and change the course of DARG. An agenda is posted on DARG.Org, and announced

by Net Control each Tuesday evening at 8:00 PM, beginning December 1st.

New Trustee

It wasn't long ago that this column included a piece welcoming "Rikk (KG4AAO), DARG's newest member." Well, DARG's board of Trustees would now like to congratulate Rikk as he assumes his duties serving DARG's membership as our Technical Systems Trustee. Rikk will offer his plans for the future at the Trustee meeting on December 12th, and perhaps offer us an advance view via the website at <http://www.darg.org>. Once again, Rikk, welcome aboard. Love the idea of a moon-based repeater, can't wait to hear the details. (Or did I misunderstand?)

Membership Drive

As you almost certainly know by now, your membership, along with all of DARG's other members, expires on December 31st. If you haven't already sent it in, grab the form that Bill (W3EMH) mailed to you last October, and send it in, along your check for \$20.

In addition to autopatch privileges, you'll be enjoying Auto-Call for the next twelve months. And, of course, all the cool stuff that DARG does throughout the year.

Dog ate your form? Don't worry, we'll send you another; just let us know. (And don't worry about the dog; the form won't hurt him. It tastes just like chicken. Membership, however, is still only for humans. And talking cows.)

Finally...

We'll be reminding you of these and other topics on DARG's Tuesday evening net each week at 8:00 PM on the N4FSC repeater (145.31 -600), and on DARG's website at <http://www.darg.org>. And that's it for now.

73 de Bob/AB3H



Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, 5:30 PM, In the Historical Electronics Museum, West Nursery Road and Elkrige Landing Roads. Linthicum, Maryland (Next to BWI Marriott Hotel).

Info: Nick Yokanovich, N3YVW, (410) 544-5736. **Club Station:** W3GR.

Mail: P.O. Box 746, Mail Stop 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203.

Web Page: <http://members.aol.com/wk3p/se.htm>

Street address: 1745 W. Nursery Rd., Linthicum, MD 21090.

time and many changes have been made. It will be a much stronger showing in 1999.

The New Antenna Saga

The next step in getting a the tower for the tribander erected is a good formal plan with all the appropriate engineering data. The antenna committee is working to make sure they understand and respond to all the ground rules for liability mitigation and regulation compliance.

The October Meeting

The members were warned that the nomination committee is on the prowl and will tender a slate of officers for 1999 at the next meeting.

For the technical meeting two informal show and tell presentations were made in the HEMARC lab: Heru Wamsley, W3WVV demonstrated aluminum soldering on the fabrication of X-band horns and waveguide. [Getting ready for P3D?]

New Members

HEMARC welcomes Chuck Hastings, W3PJ and Dan Zeitlin, K2YWE to the club.

MD QSO Party

The certificate for the MD QSO party was received and discussed. We learned a lot in a short

The writer demonstrated the rugged excellence of fine engineering and construction of the oscillator deck of the AN/WRT-2 HF ISB transmitter. This is what was required for frequency stability and Precision in the decades before the wonderful IC synthesizer we all enjoy today.

73 de Chip W4PBG

Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club SPECIAL EVENT STATION

QSO with W2W on December 5 and 6, 1998. The annual D-Day commemorative special event station will take to the air on 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 CW and SSB. A QSL card with two 32cent stamps will bring a frame worthy color certificate to your snail mail box. We were amazed at the interest last year and hope to make even more FB QSO's this year. The TBL-13 and the BC-610 are up and running for this years operations. Join us or drop by, see the museum and participate or chat with us.



The Maryland Apple Dumpling Radio Amateur Society, Inc.

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursdays - 7:00 P.M.
St. Paul's Church, 10401 Armory Avenue,
Kensington, Maryland 20895.

Clubhouse: MADRAS Clubhouse, 11800
Coakley Circle, Rockville, MD 20852

Nets: 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 9:00 P.M. on
145.45 MHz (PL-5A).

Repeaters: 444.100/449.100 MHz (PL-2A),
145.45/144.85 MHz (PL-5A).

WWW Address: <http://mvhsl.mbhs.edu/~fwright/MADRAS.html>

Mailing: P. O. Box 2468, Wheaton, MD 20902

Information: Leo Boberschmidt KA3TGY
(301)946-3738, Jean Blacik N3PLC (301)
984-6114.

At the October 22nd meeting, MADRAS elected the following officers for the 1998-1999 season:

President	Leo Boberschmidt W3LEO
Vice-President	Howard Gorden W3CQH
Co-Secretaries	Jean Blacik N3PLC Sandy McWherter N3TQE
Treasurer	Lenny Schacter N3RPQ
Parliamentarian	Bob Price N3NNQ
Sergeant-At-Arms	Everett Dutton W3CED
FAR Representative	Lenny Schacter N3RPQ
T-MARC Rep.	Larry Ziecheck N3GKZ

MADRAS sends its appreciation to Leo W3LEO for organizing the Boy Scouts JOTA event, which took place at St. Paul's Church in Kensington, Maryland. Scout Troop 439 participated in the 1998 Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) on October 16th and 17th. The Scouts all had a fun time and got some exposure to ham radio, either on HF, VHF with the handheld HT's on 2 meters, or on packet via the local packet bulletin board or the packet cluster DX spotting net. We still remember the Scout who had a chance to talk

on 20 meters to someone in Croatia and how he kept saying, "I talked to someone in Croatia: I actually talked to someone in Croatia."

We had a station set up on HF, a packet station and several handheld HTs around. In addition, we had various ham information sheets and books, plus a box of QSL cards from W3LEO. Larry N3GKZ provided a code practice oscillator that the boys had fun using. It was a good time all around.

Thanks also to Howard W3CQH, Lenny N3RPQ, Bob N3NNQ, Jean N3PLC, Larry N3GKZ, Everett W3CED, and Ann W3ANN for their help in various ways with the Jamboree.

By popular request, we will once again hold our Christmas Dinner at the Golden Bull Grande Cafe at 7 Dalamar Street in Gaithersburg, Maryland. This gala event will take place on Thursday, December 3rd at 7:30 PM.

There will be no meetings during the month of December since this is usually a very hectic time for all of us, getting ready for the holiday season. We hope as many of you as possible can make it to the Annual Christmas Dinner.

Congratulations to Ann Irvine and Everett Dutton on their new vanity call signs, issued on October 27th of this year. Ann, ex KB3CZY, is now the proud owner of W3ANN. Everett, ex N3ZTQ, is now the owner of W3CED (his initials). We will have to be on the look out for these "new" calls.

At our October 8th meeting we were fortunate to have Rip Smith KC3H, from RACES, give us a presentation on both ARES AND RACES and what they were doing in the area. Many of our members are already associated with the groups and are very active in all of the events sponsored by the organizations.

Wishing you all a HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!! See you at the Dinner.

Jean, N3PLC



The Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: First Friday of each month at Baldwin Hall, Millersville, MD.

Repeaters: W3CU (PL 107.2) - 146.805 & 449.125 both in Millersville, Md. W3VPR - 442.3 in Annapolis - Joint usage AARC.

Social Breakfasts: 15 days (3 Saturdays) after club mtg, at Rick's Cafe in Odenton at 9 AM.

Mailing: MMARC, P.O. Box 935, Severn, Md. 21144

Nets: 2-Meter on 146.805 @20:30 local time every Monday, 10-Meter CW practice net @19:00 Monday on 28.230 MHz.

Information: Bill Ziegler KA6TYT (410) 987-2384 (email: Zzziggy@aol.com).

Web: <http://www.erols.com/wb3v/mmARC/>



The Mid-Atlantic DX and Repeater Association

Meetings: Rotating locations among Hagerstown MD, Frederick MD, Martinsburg WV and Gaithersburg MD.

Net: Thursday evenings at 1930 local on 147.06.

4 State10M net: Wednesdays at 2000 local on 28.315.

Repeaters: Frederick MD: 147.06, 224.20, 448.125; Martinsburg WV: 147.345.

Mailing: 230 North Potomac St., Suite 2A, Hagerstown MD 21740

Information: Voice BBS (301) 416-8447 and (301) 473-4151.

Web Page: <http://www.qsl.net/madra>

E-Mail: madra@juno.com

Greetings from the Mobileers! The Mobileers held their 1999 election of officers at the October meeting. Below are listed the 1999 Board of Directors.

President	Ken Stuart, W3VVN
Vice Pres.	Frank Winner, N3SEO
Secretary	Chaz Moody, W3TXF
Treasurer	Rick Cooper, N3BUT
Director	Tom Ostrosky, W3NI
Director at Large	Ted Pyle, KC3GY
Director at Large	Ken Queen, N3MCY

Thanks guys for volunteering to lead the club up to the next century! I also encourage all to check out our web page at <http://www.space4less.com/usr/mmARC>.

That's it for this month. Please note our club meeting, breakfast and net times. We would be happy to meet you and share some good "Ham Stories"!! Don't hesitate to use our repeater if you are in the areas.

73, Bill/KA6TYT

Greetings of the Season, which, hopefully, you're reading in early December. Please accept apologies for absence from these pages in November. Material was together, but did not make the trip.

The 1st order of business will be to say: "How 'bout those repeaters!" Surely you've noticed by now that three of them are at their strongest in a long time. During Brunswick's Railroad Days Festival (3-4 October) we used the new Brunswick remote receiver/transmitter site to pass 2M simplex traffic for the city's participation in SET. It worked well, so we knew at that point that our coverage in the Potomac valley and down in the Commonwealth of Virginia was going to be a lot better, very soon.

Other things happening in October included the first steps in getting our RCV/XMT remote site in Rockville operational. A power line was in place by the end of the month and equipment was about to come off the bench and make the trip to Rockville for installation. We don't move really fast on some of these projects but it's possible

you'll be working through that site by the time this is published.

October was also the month for preparation of our new site in Brunswick for storage of hamfest and field equipment. What a mess! Must have been old lumber, boxes, shelving, signs, and containers dating back to the 40s in there, but it's all neat and shipshape now. Thanks, also, to our anonymous landlord who has donated the space in return for our cleanup services.

Now pay attention, because here's the really important stuff: We plan to have a MADRA Holiday Dinner at the Blue Fox Inn, Route 355 (south of Frederick) at 7PM in the evening of 10 December.

As always, you don't need to be a MADRA member to attend but we need you to contact one of the Directors at least by 8 December or so and tell us how many to plan on.

If you missed November's meeting on Thursday the 12th, rest assured that a good time was had by all and you should have come. As usual, we didn't bore anyone with a dull membership meeting but you can bet you missed a good time at Brewer's Alley in Frederick with food, drink, pictures, and lots of conversation about ham radio. Of course, it's not possible to tell you what demonstrations you may have missed; this column is always written before the meetings take place. Here's the advance sked for 1999 meetings:

January 7, 1999

Roy's Place - Gaithersburg MD

February 11, 1999

Mountain Gate Rest. - Thurmont MD

March 11, 1999

Brewer's Alley - Frederick MD

April 8, 1999

Rocco's Restaurant - Hagerstown MD

May 13, 1999

Watson's Restaurant - Frederick MD

June 10, 1999

Roy's Place, Gaithersburg MD

July 8, 1999

Cozy Restaurant, Thurmont Md

August 12, 1999

Washington Spy Rest. - Hagerstown MD

September 9, 1999

Casa Rico Rest. - Frederick MD

October 14, 1999

Richardson's Rest. - Hagerstown MD

November 11, 1999

Brewer's Alley - Frederick Md

December 9, 1999

Dan Dee Restaurant - Frederick MD

Of course, please check the WebSite and check in on the nets so you have current information. Once we had a dinner planned and the place went out of business. Do you suppose it was just the only way they could think of to get rid of us?

73 DE N2CSQ/3



National Capital ARES Council

NCAC Net: Sunday at 9 PM on 146.655(-)

Voice mail: (703) 359-3414.

E-mail: NCAC@usa.net.

The Marine Corps Marathon is over for another year! Ninety ARES volunteers from far and wide contributed to the effort in support of Navy Medical staff. Communications were provided between key Navy Medical personnel, seven Aid Stations and Arlington County, Va. Fire Department personnel dispatching emergency medical units. Others positioned along the course became the lookouts for runners in trouble along the way.

Well over one-thousand persons were treated in Aid Stations during the course of the day and the "Medlog" packet network documented each entry and exit.

Over thirty patients were evacuated to hospitals by ambulance with various complaints and injuries

but there were no fatalities this year.

Despite the considerable effort to test and coordinate net control repeaters and frequencies, the day was an exercise in what amateur radio operators do best and that's behave in a professional manner under pressure while maintaining flexibility and sense of humor!

The weather was excellent—as long as you weren't a runner on the 14th St. Bridge!

The lunch—if you got one—was frozen, but hey! If it went flawlessly, there'd be no challenge to doing it again next year!

Evaluations/comments are always welcome and we've already begun incorporating recommended changes into next years plan.

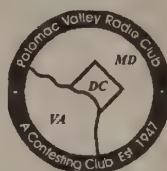
Thanks to everyone who participated, each of you deserves a hearty "WELL DONE!"

NCAC Institute: December 5, 1998 at the Montgomery Co. Office of Emergency Management in Rockville, MD. Topics will include: National Weather Service Winter Storm Spotting Class, Directed Net Control Class & Exercise, National Traffic System Class & Exercise, Simplex Operations in Emergencies and Incident Command. If you are new to Public Service or a veteran, you'll find a wealth of valuable information.

Registration is \$10.00 in advance and \$12.00 at the door and includes all handouts, supplies and lunch. Send your check, payable to NCAC to Lenny Schachter at 1811 Quincy St NW, Washington DC 20011.

NCAC Meetings and Nets are an excellent source of information if you are interested in Public Service. You need not be an appointed official to participate. The NCAC Public Service net meets each Sunday night at 9 PM. on 146.655, 146.910 or 146.790. Look for a listing of NCAC Public Service Events elsewhere in this publication.

The NCAC encourages all amateur radio operators to support the Foundation for Amateur Radio by subscribing to Autocall, our only local resource for what's going on in the amateur radio community. Tell your friends and fellow club members!



Potomac Valley Radio Club

Packet: K3MQH 145.63, K4FJ 145.77, KE3Q 145.57 445.375, N3RR 145.51 441.325, N4OHE 145.71 440.925, N4SR 145.63, W3LPL 145.59 441.25, WR3L 145.61 440.95.

Web: www.pvrc.org & www.pagesz.net/~pvrcnc

Repeater: 147.000(-) Thanks to Ashton RCS

Information: Bob Dannals, W2GG@amsat.org, 410-472-2004 before 9pm and Rich Boyd, KE3Q@erols.com, 301-464-8014.

This column will provide the casual operator with sufficient information to participate in selected December contests. You do not have to be a member of any club or send in a score to enjoy operating in contests and helping others to earn points. Local times are given below but any logs should be in UTC (Zulu) time. Either the above contacts or the editor will be glad to provide information about contesting or becoming a member of PVRC, a non-dues club.

The below 160m and 10m contests are club competition contests. That is, PVRC members will enter the contest as individuals and also add all their scores for a club score competing against other contest clubs. If you hear local stations in either contest, please give us a call and send an exchange. ARRL 160 Meter Contest - CW. Dec 4th 5pm to Dec 6th 11am. Exchange RST and ARRL/RAC section except DX stations send only RST. Most will send 599 regardless of your actual signal. Each new section worked multiplies your score.

ARRL 10 Meter Contest - CW & SSB. Dec 11th 5pm to Dec 13th 5pm. Operate no more than 36 of the 48 hours. Sent RS(T) and state while DX stations send RS(T) and QSO serial number. Novices and Technician sign /N or /T.

RAC Canada Winter Contest - CW & SSB. Dec 26th 5pm to Dec 27th 5pm. CW suggested up 25 kHz from band edge on the half hour. SSB suggested on 1850, 3775, 7075(VE), 7225(US), 14175, 21250, & 28500 kHz. Plus 6 and 2 meters. We send RS(T) plus QSO serial number. Canadians send RS(T) plus province or territory. Special bonus point are earned by working a Canadian calls with a suffix of RAC.

ARRL Straight Key Night. CW sent only with a straight key. Dec 31st 7pm to Jan 1st 7pm. Suggest 60 to 80 kHz from band edge and 10 kHz up from Novice band edge. This is not really a contest but a friendly chatty CW meeting. Instead of RST use SKN when sending a signal report.

73, Dick Wilder, K3DI, 913 Shore Acres Rd,
Arnold, MD 21012-1724 wilder@clark.net
410-757-6706

The SMARC training course is underway, with theory being taught by Vic, WA3YUV, and the CW portion by Richard, WK3I. The classes are being conducted at the same location of our monthly meetings, every Monday night. By the time you read this in early December, hopefully we will have some new hams and some upgrades as well.

Plans are being formulated now for the SMARC Christmas Party, to be held in lieu of our regular meeting on Friday, December 11. Same place as last year, the Holiday Inn, Waldorf. Thanks to Linda, KA3VNI, for her dedicated efforts in making this happen. Hope to see SMARC members and friends there.

Our 440 repeater (443.600 out, 448.600 in) (PL Tone 103.5 when needed, but not currently activated) is on the air! As of this writing on November 1 it is operational but indications are that some slight tweaking might be in order.

Everyone is welcome and invited to join in on our SMARC nets as detailed in the heading above.

Congratulations to Jim, N3SFY, for upgrading to General! He also passed the 20 wpm code speed exam!

At the October meeting, following were nominated to serve during 1999. Elections will be held at the November meeting, and the new officers will take over at the December Party Meeting.

President	Greg, N3MPR
Vice President	Ken, KA3POX
Secretary	Vance, N7OHP
Public Service	Steve, N3ZBJ
Activities	Frank, N3OCW
Treasurer	Richard, WK3I
Director	Jim, N3SFY
Newsletter	Al, W2GJS

That's about it for this month. 73 and Season's Greetings to all

Al, W2GJS

Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 2nd Friday of each month at 1930 ET at the PG County Police, Clinton Station, 6707 Groveton Drive, Clinton, Maryland.

Nets: Tuesday at 2000 on 147.15+ Repeater; Wednesday at 2000 on 1.865 (+/-QRM); Thursday at 2000 on 28.447 USB.

Repeater: WA3YUV/R 147.15+, Brandywine, Md. PL 114.8, Autopatch to 911.
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 273, Cheltenham, Md, 20623

Information: Vic (WA3YUV) & Linda (KA3VNI), (301) 888-1388.

Internet: <http://www.iscanit.com/smarc>



Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 8:00 P.M. - Third Monday of the month except July and August at Sterling Community Center Annex, Church Rd. (Rt. 625) near Route 28, Sterling, VA.

Mailing: Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167.

Information: Bill Lorentz, KS4II, 703-444-6341 or via email KS4II@AOL.com.

Seventeen members attended the October SPARC meeting. I would like to welcome two new members to SPARC Gene Kozlowski, WB4KAE and Mike Sheleheda, KD4MTW.

During our meeting we put together plans for club activities during the upcoming year including: entering more contests as a club, project nights and setting up web sites to support our portion of the incoming QSL bureau, SPARC and the Virginia QSO Party.

To this end we formed a "Web Site" committee that will be led by Mike Sheleheda, KD4MTW and includes Ray Mullins, KD4RSL, Dick Maylott, W2YE, Bill Rowlett, KC4ATU, Mike Weisel, KR4TF and Robert Lorentz, KE4JDA. This to Mike for volunteering to lead the group and to all for their participation!

Six club members spent their Halloween day helping Art Nevins, WA4NTP take down his thirty foot tower and three element beam. This was a first attempt at tower work for some of us and we learned a lot. Things went very well and we were finished by early afternoon. Thanks to Art and his wife Sarah, N4GVM for providing lunch and to Dick Maylott, W2YE, Floyd Martin, W4RW, Ed Lockhart, K4GEL, Robert Lorentz, KE4JDA and Bill Lorentz, KS4II. Special thanks to Duane Durst, K4UW for doing most of the tower top work!

I wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season and a happy new year!

73, Bill, KS4II



The Middle Atlantic FM and Repeater Council, Inc.

Meetings: Coordinating Committee (CC) normally meets the last Monday of each month, 19:30, in the OEP conference room of the Prince George's County Emergency Operations Center off Central Avenue. Talk-in on 147.18.

Address: P.O. Box 1022, Savage, Md. 20763-1022 for all correspondence.

Web Page: [HTTP://WWW.T-MARC.ORG](http://WWW.T-MARC.ORG).

E-mail: TMARC@T-MARC.ORG

Information: President - Owen Wormser K6LEW (703)684-7682 CC Chairman - Bill Conaway W8HNT, Pager (703)741-4251.

Ombudsman: Jim Erickson K3LFO (410)549-1041, K3LFO@APEXGRP.COM.

As you read this, the Annual Meeting and election will be over. We should have several new members on the Board, including a replacement for yours truly. Next month's column will detail the results of the election, and any other business items of interest. I wish the new Board members a successful year.

We continue to reap benefits from the status inquiries sent out by Bill, W8HNT, our frequency coordinator. 53.07 and 442.950 were relinquished by the PROS on the eastern shore of Maryland. Thanks, guys. And quite a few corrections and updates to our database have been received.

This brings up an important reminder: If you are planning ANY changes to any portion of your coordinated system, please let T-MARC know before you make the changes. This not only applies to the repeater itself, but to any links (such as remote receiver links) and control frequencies. The

reason is so we can make certain that your planned changes won't adversely affect your neighbors, or vice versa.

Several new coordinations have been issued, including a new ATV repeater using 426.25/439.25 at Martinsburg, WV, to K0RAJ; new 449.725 at Hazletville, Del., and 447.325 at Elkton, Md., to WA3BXW (I think these will be part of a multi-repeater system WA3BXW operates in eastern Pa. and southern N.J.); and 442.950 to N3RCN at Charlestown on Maryland's eastern shore, east of Baltimore. New UHF links have been coordinated to the Tri-County ARC's 147.18 and the NVFMA's 146.91 repeaters.

With several new Board members, this will probably be my last Auto-Call column. I've enjoyed writing these columns, and hope they've provided you with some useful information. I wish my successor the best of success, and I want to thank John, the editor of Auto-Call, for all of his help and encouragement.

73, Gary, W3DTN, T-MARC PIO



Vienna Wireless Society

Meeting: 7:30pm second and fourth Fridays of the month at the Vienna Community Center.

Nets: Pow-Wow nightly at 9 pm. on 28.444 MHz. Slow speed code, nightly 8:30 pm on 28.390 MHz.

Vienna Emergency Net, Wednesday 7:30 pm 146.085/146.685

Repeater: K4HTA 146.685(-), 448.375(-).

Information: Mike Toia, K3MT, president, (703) 757-7021; Program: Mike Steussey AE4R, (703) 281-0010.

Mailing: P.O. Box 418 Vienna, VA. 22183

Important Note: Due to the renovation of the Vienna Community Center, the VWS meetings will be at new locations for the months of December, January and February.

The December meeting (December 11) will be held at the Vienna Presbyterian Church located at the intersection of Church and Mill Sts. in Vienna (opposite side of Maple Ave. from the Community Center). Check the RELAY and *AutoCall* for future meeting venues.

Speaking of the December meeting, it will, as usual, be the VWS Christmas Party. Come out, talk to the new Board and get questions answered, make suggestions, and have a good time.

Recent club programs have been really excellent. Not only have we gotten good advice from Ed Harris, KE4SKY, on the proper batteries to use for our emergency power operations, but we also got a fascinating look at the "Big Rigs of Yesteryear" from Pete Sypher, KC4SI.

If you think you know about the large old "boat anchors" this was a revelation. Most the rigs Pete talked about needed a full-time "oiler" just to keep them lubricated! Those things were truly "big rigs"!

The good news is that Mike Steussy, AE4R, will continue as program chairman. Mike's been doing a great job arranging interesting programs and has several good ones in the works for next year. Come on out and find out about the new things (and some old ones) going on in Amateur Radio. See you at the meetings.

73, Kerry WA4BQM

Chapter X



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(703) 536-9537



Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month at Springwoods and Chaucer, Lake Ridge, VA.

Net: Monday nights at 2000 on 147.24 with 224.78 link.

Packet: N4SR 145.63 (DX packet cluster)

Luncheon: Every Friday at noon. Check-in on 147.24 for location.

Repeaters: WB4FQR 147.24 (+), WB4FQR 224.78 (-), WB4FQR 444.90 (+), N4LJZ 147.585 simplex PL-100 HZ

Mailing: PO Box 112, Woodbridge, VA 22194

Information: Bob Graham, K4RG, 703/878-0697

Web Page: <http://www.pwcweb.com/wwi/>

CONGRATS TO THE NEW WWI OFFICERS

The 1998-99 WWI officers were elected at the 13 October meeting.

PRESIDENT

WD4KOF, Jack Carwile 491-3230

VICE PRESIDENT

W4DC, Denis Catalano 680-4998

SECRETARY

K4JK, John Kendra 590-3373

TREASURER

KT4AD, John Grout 670-6592

ACTIVITIES

KR4KF, Bob Tyson 590-2482

TRUSTEE

WB4FQR, Phil Poole

BOARD MEMBERS

WA0DYJ, Stu Mitchell 670-4252

K5OF, Ed Pitts 494-9598

K4RG, Bob Graham 878-0697

Please give Jack and the executive committee your full support to make 1999 another successful year.

1998-99 MEETING PROGRAMS

Below is a tentative schedule of Programs at the monthly WWI meetings.

November 10

Budget meeting / "Knots for Hams" (KT4AD)

December 5

Holiday Party "Wine tasting"

January 12

"The Year 2000 Challenge & the Ham" (KQ4KK)

February 9

"Moon Bounce" (W4AD)

March 9

"Crew Race Support" (KB2ECN)

April 13

"Mountain-top VHF/UHF Contesting" (W4DAV/W4NF)

May 11

"FIELD DAY" program (KC4ZHQ/W4DC)

June 8

"Computer Logging"

July 13

"HF Mobile" (N8NQP/WD4AIR)

JOTA FOLLOW UP

As mentioned last month, the Woodbridge Wireless sponsored it's seventh JOTA, Jamboree On The Air, October 17th. The operation took place from the Pohick Regional Park. Five HF stations and one VHF station were available for the scouts to use. The WWI Emergency Communications Van (alias "The Bus") housed one HF station and

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one VHF station. Two HF stations were set up under the trees, and two HF station were in mobiles.

Over 200 scout from ten troops/packs participated in JOTA from this location. The weather was great, and the Boy Scouts were especially primed for getting involved in ham radio. Seventy-one (yes, 71) scouts indicated they would like to take enroll in the Woodbridge Wireless class to earn their ham license. Eight scouts worked on their radio merit badge at JOTA. Numerous seeds were planted for many other young scouts.

GREAT JOB! Thanks to all the WWI members who made this event a success including: Denis

W4DC, Jim WD4AIR, Bob KR4KF, Cliff W4CE, Phil N4CWX, John K4JK, Jim WJ4M, Larry K0LB, Dean WB4EIY, Mike N8NQP, Jerry KE4QWE, Bob W4FPJ, Mike KA4RRU, Chip KB8TNU, and to Jack WD4KOF and Dave W4DAV for driving the bus.

WWI FIELD DAY 1998 - PHOTOS

Field Day photos were published in the November 1998 QST, and the Woodbridge Wireless made it into the QST with not one, but two photos, after 28 years of trying. Congrats. Again, thanks to all who participated or supported WWI's 28th Field Day.

ANNE ARUNDEL RADIO CLUB TWO METER CHILDRENS NET

The Anne Arundel Radio Club (AARC) is sponsoring a Children's Net on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month at 7 PM local time on the 147.105+ Davidsonville, Maryland repeater.

The purpose of the net is to give youth an opportunity to experience and learn about amateur radio through participation and develop new interests within our communities. Each net will have a theme question to start the net discussion and get things going.

Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Moms and Dads, this is a time to give your children and neighborhood friends' children some air time and meet other kids on the air. All licensed hams who can reach the AARC repeater are encouraged to check in with or without a child and participate in the discussion. On April 4th, 1998 we had our first net and it was a great time. Children of all ages joined in. It was a great time!

We also need licensed AARC operators for net control operators. Please contact Doug Ellmore/N3XQP via the Internet at n3xqp@amsat.org or via the AARC 147.105+ repeater during the daily commute for more information.

TNX, 73 Doug/NA1DX - via e-mail: NA1DX@amsat.org.

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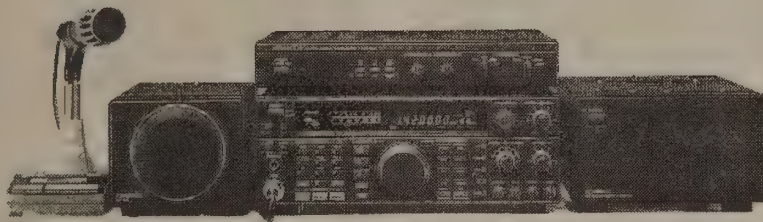
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Estate sales for Widows assistance handled by a FAR club will be published without cost.

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the telephone and all ads must be prepaid. Ads that will be running for longer than 1 month must be accompanied by a letter stating the length that the ad is to be run. Since no effort is made to investigate advertisers, no warranty can be implied. Copy **MUST** be received by the 1st day of the month prior to the month of publication. Send all commercial and non-commercial advertising and Shack Sales to:

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755 Woodland Way, Owings, MD 20736
(301) 855-0198

FOR SALE: TS830-S Kenwood HF Transceiver, with VF230 remote VFO, YK88c and YG-455C CW filters, new finals, (less than one hour) good condition with user manual. \$625.00. Ken Queen, N3MCY 410-437-7142 after SPM kequeen@aol.com [12/98]

FOR SALE: MFJ 934 Antenna Tuner/Artificial Ground, like new, original box and manuals, used very little. \$125.00. Ken Queen, N3MCY 410-437-7142 after SPM kequeen@aol.com [12/98]

FREE: Cushcraft 4 bay 10M Cubical Quad Antenna, in pieces, one bay is broken, can be fixed by ingenious ham. You Haul. Ken Queen, N3MCY 410-437-7142 after SPM kequeen@aol.com [12/98]

FREE to good home: Lafayette HA 460 AM 6 meter transceiver, rotor control, 6 meter squalo antenna, 6 meter beam, Heathkit SWR power meter, homebrew antenna switch with dummy load, box of miscellaneous stuff - will deliver within reasonable distance. Call (301) 839-1632 or e-mail dmbyam@erols.com. [12/98]

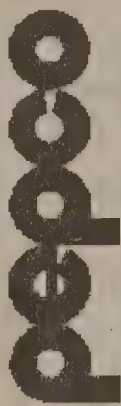
FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-450S/AT 10-80m Xcvr with Astron RS-20 Power Supply. Virtually new condition. Package includes 10-40m wire dipole and 80m sloper. \$650.00. K3EH (301) 279-6562. [12/98]

FOR SALE: Widows Assistance from the estate of Ed Phillips, W3TSK. Heathkit SB-200 Linear Amplifier, \$250.00; Heathkit IM-2410 Frequency Counter, \$50.00; Heathkit HM-10A Dipper Tuner, \$15.00; Heathkit VF-1 Frequency Oscillator, \$20.00; Swan SWR-1 meter, \$20.00; 2-Heathkit HM-11 SWR meters, \$15.00; Heathkit MDL-1B5281 RLC Bridge, \$10.00; Astatic D-104 Mike, \$40.00; Power Supply, 15V-DC, 30 A, \$75.00; Kenwood R-100 Receiver, \$175.00; Heathkit HW-12 SSB 80 Meter Transceiver, \$45.00; ICOM IC25H Mobile 2 Meter Transceiver, \$100.00; Heathkit HW-101 10-80 Meter Transceiver, \$145.00; Heathkit 20 Meter SSB Transceiver, \$45.00; ICOM IC-740 Transceiver, \$250.00; Homebrew Antenna Tuner, \$25.00. Please call Bob Henkel, NA3R, on 301-649-4494 or e-mail jrhenkel@erols.com.

NOTICE: Any other hams having trouble with their Yaesu FT-920 please call or write. Thank you W3MSN. (301) 894-3977. 5108 Boulder Dr. Oxon Hill, MD 20745. [11/98]

FOR SALE: Kenwood Ts-140S HF transceiver, Kenwood external AT-50 Automatic Antenna Tuner, with manuals, excellent condition. Originally \$1110 both. Asking \$800. Charles Kahn, evenings Tuesday through Thursday, (301) 868-7120. cj Kahn@juno.com. [11/98]

FOR SALE: 50' crank up tower, Mosely TA33 tri-band antenna with CDE antenna rotor. \$150 cash you haul. WB3KBU, Jim (301) 868-7061.

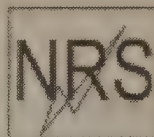
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[SWP]

Mid-Atlantic Radio Club. Become a part of one of the country's fastest growing vintage radio clubs. The Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club is an active group of radio collectors, restorers and historians. For a sample newsletter, write to Barry Zimmerman, MAARC Membership Chair, 5825 Woodwinds Circle, Frederick, MD 21703-7579. (301) 696-5561.

[SWP]

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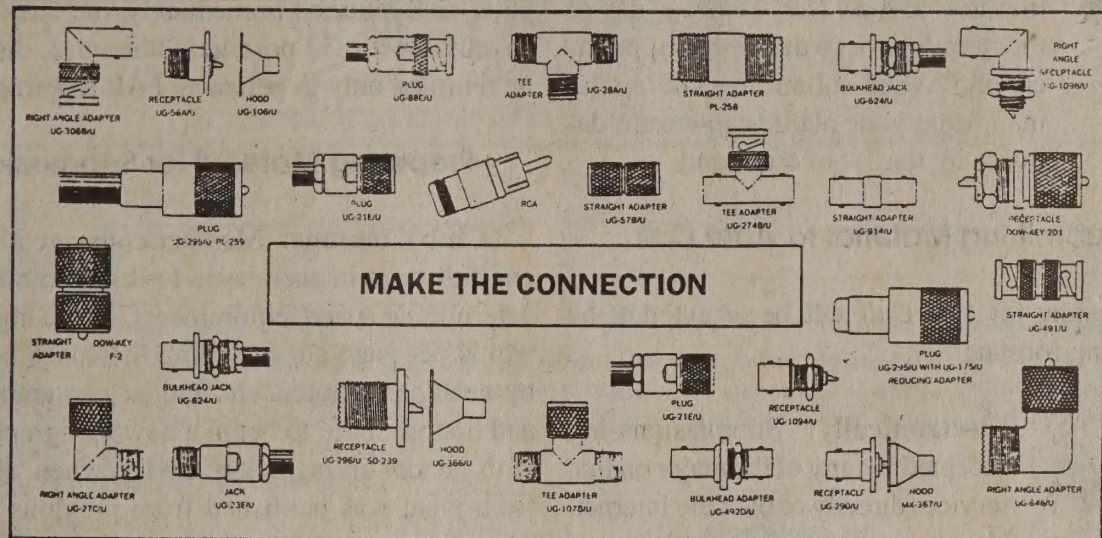
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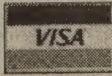
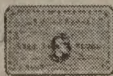
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Submissions for *Auto Call* will be accepted in the following formats:



Electronically: Submissions are accepted via any of the major on line services directly or over the Internet. Use the format exactly as follows:

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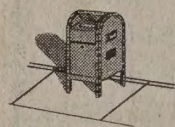
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Computer Disk: Submissions are accepted on 3.5" or 5.25" computer disk, in either Macintosh or MS-DOS format, using Word, WordPerfect, or standard ASCII text files. Write your name, telephone number, and club name on the disk. Submit graphic files (club logos, etc) in an EPS or TIFF format. Please verify the readability of your com-

puter files before sending. If you want your computer disk returned immediately, include a SASE envelope with .32 postage. Otherwise, disks will be returned only in person at FAR meetings.

Preparing Material for Submission

Club Columns: Member clubs are allocated one full page in each issue for club columns. In determining space requirements, figure about 700 words per page not including the space taken up by headings, photos, etc. Indent paragraphs .25" and double space to begin a new paragraph. Send club header information **ONLY** when different from what was published from previous month. The editor reserves the right to edit any submitted material for space, content and/or applicability.

Hamfests/Events: Member clubs are allocated one full page per year to promote one club sponsored hamfest, convention, or special event. Submit clean black & white camera ready copy only by mail. Master copy should be in black ink on white paper and should be in proper page ratio, (Copy space is 7" wide by 9" high). Copy can be reduced or enlarged as necessary. Electronic submissions of Hamfest ads will not be accepted.

Photographs: The editor will select the best photograph submitted for the cover each month. Photographs should depict club members, club stations, or amateur radio related events that are current and noteworthy. Clubs may also submit photographs for inclusion with their club column. Photographs will be used in columns when space permits. Either B&W or color photos can be used. For each photograph submitted, write your name, phone number, and club name, along with a description of the photograph on a piece of paper, and tape it on the back of the photograph. Do not write on the back of your photo. If you want your photos returned immediately, include a SASE envelope with sufficient postage. Otherwise, photos will be returned only in person at FAR meetings.



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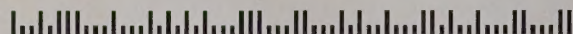
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Happy Holidays!		1 Antietam PGWA	2 BARC Montgomery	3 Anne Arundel	4 Mobileers Charles Co. Shenandoah	5 Green Mtn.
6 Kent Island	7 DOSARC	8 Leisure Frederick Woodbridge	9 VOA FAR - MD Exp Post	10 AMRAD MADRAS Mid-Atlantic Mt. Vernon HEMARC	11 Vienna So. Maryland Alexandria	12 North Point
13 Metro Com	14 Carroll Co. Potomac	15 Antietam Arlington	16 BARC Montgomery Goddard	17 Anne Arundel	18 Shenandoah	19 Capital City QCWA 91
20	21 OVHA Sterling Park	22	23 Exp Post Moose Carroll Co.	24	25	26
27 Adventist	28 Calvert Green Mtn. T-MARC	29 Columbia	30	31		



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